

# The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1875.

## The Week.

THE Senate has been occupied with the discussion of a resolution, introduced by Senator Morton a week ago yesterday, calling for a special committee to investigate the recent Mississippi election; and the re-election of Mr. Ferry as President *pro tem*. The grounds on which the special committee is demanded are fraud and intimidation, the chief evidence being the unusual majority by which the State was carried, and alleged violation of the Enforcement Act. Mr. Morton declined to discuss any constitutional question involved, but referred to the special investigating committee in the Louisiana case as a sufficient precedent. On Friday, Senator Edmunds introduced a resolution that the Senate should, on the 7th of January, proceed to the election of a President *pro tem*. The motion was referred to the Judiciary Committee, this action then reconsidered, and it was finally referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Mr. Edmunds, in introducing it, said that in his own mind he had no doubt that Senator Ferry was already President *pro tem* under the Constitution, but, that all doubts might be set at rest, he was in favor of action being taken. Saturday Congress passed in Philadelphia with the President and other officers of the Government, including the Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court, inspecting the Centennial grounds and buildings, and making up their minds whether the Centennial ought to have a million and a half as a subsidy. On Monday, the credentials of Robert H. Marr as McEnery Senator from Louisiana, vice W. L. McMillan, resigned, were presented,—a fact which seems to show a very obstinate determination on the part of a few malcontents to reopen the Louisiana question. Mr. Edmunds introduced a new resolution declaring Senator Ferry President *pro tem* until January 7, or a fresh appointment, and Senator Bayard introduced a substitute in favor of Senator Thurman. The substitute was rejected by a strict party vote (21 to 24), and Mr. Edmunds's resolution adopted.

The House has begun its work by adopting a resolution introduced by Mr. Holman, of Indiana, against any grant of "subsidies in money, bonds, public lands, endorsements, or by pledge of the public credit, to associations or corporations engaged or proposing to engage in public or private enterprises," and expressing the sense of the House as in favor of limiting all appropriations to such amounts as shall be "imperatively demanded by the public service." The resolution was adopted by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 to 33, Mr. Holman previously explaining that the resolution did not necessarily cover the Centennial. On the same day (Wednesday week) an anti-third-term resolution was carried through by a vote of 232 to 17. Almost no other business of any kind was transacted till Monday, when the House committees were announced by Mr. Kerr. With regard to these, the Democrats are not thoroughly pleased with them, and the Republicans manage to extract some satisfaction from the Democratic soreness. It is only fair to say, however, that Mr. Kerr had a task before him which it was impossible for any man, however conscientious, with the materials at his command, to perform in a way thoroughly to satisfy himself or anybody else. The fact is that no Speaker can appoint "truly good" committees until the people elect a "truly good" Congress, and this they have never yet shown much inclination to do. In the first place, a majority of Congress is often composed of new, raw men of whom nothing is known, and the rest is made up largely of old men of whom a great deal too much is known. A curious instance of this is afforded by the case of Mr. Wood. Everybody knows that Fernando Wood not only ought not to be chairman of an important committee, but ought not to be in

Congress at all; but Mr. Wood is a veteran Democrat and a veteran politician, lately one of the chief candidates for the Speakership; and it was only at a great sacrifice of party interest to principle, and the risk of a feud within the party which might cost it a Presidential election, that Mr. Kerr has been able to keep Mr. Wood from being chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means and actually leader of the House. The chairman of this committee, Mr. Morrison, has his parliamentary reputation to make, but is a hard-money man and bears a good character in other respects. Mr. Randall gets the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Cox that on Banking and Currency, and Mr. Swann, of Maryland, that on Foreign Affairs. Most of the names on the other committees are those of obscure or unknown men, largely taken from the South, and afford no guarantee as to the sort of legislation that will be attempted by them. The general complexion of the financial and commercial ones, however, is strongly for hard-money and a tariff for revenue.

The overwhelming majority by which, on Wednesday, the House declared against a third term of course gives another blow to that scheme, and yet we have no doubt it will be still talked of, and by many dreaded, in spite of the hostility with which it is received in every direction. It has been asked, and not without good excuse, why, if a third term is impossible, and if people are so sure to vote against it, should it be so much discussed and protested against by Republican papers? The answer is very simple. No distinct and unconditional refusal of a third term has come from General Grant himself, and the "Senatorial Group," as *Harper's Weekly* calls the knot of senators who have for the last four or five years managed the party, either keep dead silence about it or seem to be busy in creating a contingency which would make the re-election of General Grant seem necessary. Republicans, therefore, who fear above all things being forced to vote for a Democratic candidate, are uneasy about the turn things may take in the Republican Convention. They know well that the President and the Senatorial Group will have a great deal more to do with the selection of delegates than the mass of Republican voters, and they fear that on the last day of the sitting, after a "ringing speech" from some leading "worker" about "outrages" or the Pope or the currency, a sort of afflatus may seem to pass over the postmasters and collectors and inspectors and appraisers and supervisors, and they may rise in their seats as if inspired, and with one voice nominate Ulysses S. Grant for a third term, and that, at the same moment, a mighty curtain may be rolled back on the stage, as if by an invisible hand, and the portrait of the Presidential candidate be revealed to the multitude, surrounded by specie and monogamous husbands, with the Pope in the background moving away at a smart trot from a crowded school-house, followed by a herd of terror-stricken polygamists, repudiators, and secessionists. There is nothing at all improbable about such a *coup* as this; and, if it were once executed, good Republicans would find themselves in a very awkward position. They might either be compelled to vote for a third term, or to cast about at the eleventh hour for a bolters' candidate, and, if they found one, run the risk in supporting him of electing a Democrat. They are, therefore, now hammering away, not so much to convince the public as to convince the President and frighten the office-holders.

The visit of Congress to Philadelphia and the attitude of the press both point to the appropriation of the million and a half asked for by the managers of the Centennial to carry them on to the opening. There is now as little objection to this request being granted as there could well be in an affair of this kind. When they first went before Congress there was great danger, apart from all questions of propriety, of the Centennial getting into "politics," and an appropriation by Congress at that time would have been a pretty certain means of securing this unfortunate result. The vote

would have been brought about by all sorts of secret bargains and promises, and every corrupt man in Congress who had voted for it would have thereafter counted himself as having the right to make something out of it. Even if the managers had been able to keep control, suspicion would not have been allayed, and fraud and perjury would have been charged at every turn against all concerned. The vote of the House against subsidies will now effectually prevent any unpleasantness of this sort, for there can be little or no log-rolling and wire-pulling in the matter. Besides this, the Centennial promises now to be more cosmopolitan and much more successful than it did at first, and it is important that the Government, which is at once an exhibitor and a promoter of the enterprise, should not suffer the representatives of the effete despotisms who are coming over here to feel that their monarchical shows have been better than our simple Republican exhibition.

Less than eighteen months ago, Senator Morton was engaged in a public attempt to extenuate the political demoralization of South Carolina, and to clear the Republican party of all responsibility for it. At about the same time, the Administration, beginning to feel the incubus of this pet Republican Southern State, was sending down hints to get rid of Governor F. J. Moses by impeaching him. This was after the failure to get Moses tried for grand larceny, his defence being that a governor of the State could not be indicted before he had been impeached. Shortly after that he lost a renomination, and was succeeded by Chamberlain, and the general impression was that reform had been begun, if not already achieved, "within the party." It very soon became evident, however, that the legislature had not been included in the reform, and that the greatest service the new governor could render the State was to watch all its proceedings and veto what he could of them. He had enough influence with them last winter to prevent their appointing the notorious W. J. Whipper to a vacant judgeship in the Charleston district, and his appeal to them to preserve the party from such a disgrace really seemed to have some weight with the Assembly. They have grown wiser, however, in the interval, and on Thursday, by a "strict party vote" and on strict party grounds, actually elected Whipper to the identical judgeship—the most important in the State—and ex-Governor Moses to an adjoining circuit, the third. Whipper is a black man, a politician of the lowest order of morals and intelligence, and shares with Moses the reputation of having been an embezzler of State moneys. The latter not only robbed the Treasury, but, as Governor, abused the pardoning power in a way which has never been surpassed for cool defiance of justice and unconcealed personal ends. Judges at last refused to go through the farce of giving long sentences to condemned criminals, and in his court suitors would doubtless soon learn the folly of paying counsel instead of bribing the bench. Governor Chamberlain has once more effectively thrown himself in the breach, by refusing to issue commissions to these worthies, on the ground that before their appointments take effect (next August) a general election for the Assembly will be held, and that the new legislature is the proper body to fill the judicial vacancies of 1876.

The Mayoralty election in the city of Boston last week was attended by several unusual circumstances. Mr. Boardman, the defeated candidate, is President of the Common Council, and is so popular a politician that he managed to secure the nomination of both the Republican and the Democratic party, of the Labor Reform organization, and of several minor bodies. Mayor Cobb, on the other hand, was unable to secure the formal nomination of any regular party, and was nominated only by a self-constituted committee of Silver-Tops and Swallow-Tails. Moreover, he had alienated the affections of the workmen by refusing to use his influence to keep up the wages of city laborers when the market price of labor had declined; he was deserted by all the engineers of party machinery because, throughout his term of office, he has persistently refused to enquire into a man's political beliefs when determining qualifications for official appointment; he has also urged

the adoption of the proposed new city charter, which would take a great deal of executive power from Aldermanic Committees and place it in the hands of commissioners appointed by the Mayor. In spite of all these adverse circumstances, his election, by a decided majority of the largest vote ever cast at a Boston city election, is an encouraging sign of healthy political action. It is a significant fact in this connection that the Board of Registrars of Voters removed no less than 17,000 names of voters which were upon the lists last year, leaving about 40,000 names of *qualified* voters. According to Massachusetts law every voter must be able to read and write, and is obliged to produce a receipted tax-bill, before his name can be registered. Whether Mr. Cobb, whose majority was 2,600, would have been defeated or not if the above 17,000 names had been left upon the voting-lists, is a problem which may deserve to attract some attention from those interested in the question of municipal politics. Mr. Boardman, it is proper to add, although supported by all the regular parties, was opposed by the entire press of the city.

We observe that the Bar Association of this city is going to become a State organization—a proceeding in which its members of course are chiefly interested. The success of the Bar Association throughout the State as a reformatory agency—a matter in which all have some interest—will depend upon the vigor with which it goes to work, and we wish we could say that the parent society had latterly shown a zeal sufficient to make us expect great things from the branches in the rural districts. Why does not the Bar Association, for instance, in this city, investigate such proceedings as those in Dolan's case? Dolan has been sentenced to be hung by one judge after a trial, whereupon another judge who knows nothing about the case intervenes, and on the simple statement "on honor" of a lawyer who had no connection with the case grants a writ of error, and no notice required by statute is even sent to the District-Attorney by the lawyer. These are the things that Barnard and Cardozo used to do. Judge Donohue, who granted this application without hearing the other side or enquiring whether notice had been given, is the same Judge Donohue who ordered a "bill of particulars" to be given in Tweed's case, it being impossible for the plaintiffs to give a bill of particulars owing to the destruction of the records on which the action was based.

Mr. Trenor W. Park does not seem to be satisfied with his suit against the *Tribune*. He has brought one against the *ation* also, and again lays his damages at \$100,000. What it is for we do not as yet know, as he has not filed his declaration, and we can think of nothing which has recently appeared in our columns likely to give him offence, except our call on James E. Lyon to "come to the front." It is not unreasonable to suppose that when General Schenck comes home he will sue us also, and he cannot, as a man who has filled a first-class mission, decently lay his damages at less than \$200,000. This will make \$300,000 in all, which, with \$25,000 to Mr. Silas Williams, we shall have to pay to the promoters of the Emma Mine without ever having made a cent out of it ourselves. We would ask respectfully whether this is fair or just? We will take leave to add, however, that we think Mr. Park's allegation that we have damaged him to such an extent the most shocking illustration of the effect of inflation in prices we have yet witnessed. We feel confident that, were things now on a specie basis, a reputation like his could be repaired and made as good as new for \$50 in gold. If anything we have said of it has injured it to the extent of \$100,000 in paper, it shows how much contraction is needed before we "touch bottom." There is no doubt that after January 1, 1879, if the Government carries out its promises, Emma-Mine operators may be freely labelled for \$25 a head, without costs. As Mr. Park's suit with the *Tribune* will come on before ours, we fear ours will prove uninteresting and short.

The changes most deserving of notice in Wall Street during the week were the decline in gold, the advance in foreign exchange, and the advance in the rates for money. The expectation of the early beginning of the prepayment, without rebate, of the January interest on the public debt, which was backed up by speculative

influences in the Gold-Room, was the immediate cause of the decline in the gold market; the remote cause was the appointment of committees in the House of Representatives in favor of a sound currency. Foreign exchange was strong, because of a demand to cover not only the collections of January interest due to Europe but to pay for United States bonds imported from there, the New York market for these securities having ruled above the English and German markets. Besides this, the supply of exchange was almost restricted to bills made against the shipment of cotton. The cotton movement continues active, and both receipts at the ports and shipments are unusually large; but with this as the only source for bills, the supply has fallen behind the demand. Grain cannot be exported, because there are several speculative combinations which are interested in keeping the price up, the result being that this market is higher than the foreign markets. It is estimated that fully 10,000,000 bushels of wheat are held at this port by the combination or clique which has undertaken to control the supply of No. 1 wheat, on the calculation that the proportion of No. 1 wheat to the remainder of the crop is so small that in time there must be a very high price for it. Thus far this calculation has been at fault, and the exchanges as between here and Europe have been deranged. The money market is now fully 7 per cent. for demand loans, and it promises to continue so into the new year. The New York banks hold \$7,000,000 surplus reserve, and any change until the second or third week in January, when currency will begin to come back from the West, will be a reduction. At the Stock Exchange speculation has been dormant. The best class of railroad investments, like the first mortgages of old roads, were never higher—New York Central currency 7s, a type of this class, having reached 125. If the United States Supreme Court decides in favor of the railroads in the Granger cases, on which decision will be rendered in January, railroad property will, without doubt, be held in higher estimation by investors than it has been since it was first attacked by the Grangers. The gold price of \$100 greenbacks has ranged during the week between \$87 33½ and \$88 30.

General Webb's case has come up in the United States District Court, but the important facts have not yet come out. In 1867, when Minister to Brazil, he received £14,252 from the Brazilian Government on account of a claim made by the United States for the illegal seizure and condemnation of the schooner *Caroline*. Of this sum £5,000 was turned into the Treasury by General Webb, the balance, £9,252, having, he maintains, been paid to "influential Brazilians" for services rendered in the settlement of the claim. General Webb says now that payment was made in ninety-day bills on London, and that he has "no doubt" that they were for £5,000, £5,900, and £3,352 respectively; that the £5,000 bill was transmitted by him to Mr. Seward; that he paid over to "certain Brazilians," whose names he is "not at liberty to mention," but who were designated by the claimant, Lemuel Wells, the other two bills, and enclosed a statement of the facts with the names erased to Mr. Seward. Further than this he declines to answer any questions. He received a reply, however, from Mr. Seward, complimenting him on the settlement.

The purchase of the shares in the Suez Canal by England seems to excite more interest in France than in any other country out of England, and forms the most prominent topic of discussion in all the Paris papers. The first feeling excited by the news was one of intense chagrin, and some of the extreme Radical papers have called on the Ministers to acknowledge their miscarriage by resigning. The publication of the diplomatic correspondence on the subject, however, in the new Yellow Book has done much to soothe popular discontent, for it shows that while the British Government has been long made uneasy by the fact that the ownership of the Canal was chiefly French, it is now, speaking through Lord Derby, perfectly willing that the Canal should pass under the joint management of a Commission of the maritime powers, if such could be created. M. Lesseps has issued a circular to the stockholders assuring them that what has happened has only brought about the state

of things for which he vainly labored in the beginning, namely, a fair representation of British capital in the proprietorship of the Canal, and he evidently regards the transfer of the Khedive's shares as adding to the value of the others. There is already an increased market demand for them, mainly, it is said, from British investors. The essay-writers in the Paris papers treat the purchase as possessing a profound political significance. It indicates, they think, an abandonment of the policy of non-intervention, and preparation for a more aggressive attitude in Continental politics.

In England, the general satisfaction over the purchase of the Suez Canal shares is considerably dampened by the multiplying evidences of the unsatisfactory condition of the navy. The *Iron Duke*, which sunk the *Vanguard*, has herself come near sinking, just outside the harbor, from derangement of the valves, which was only discovered and comprehended at the last moment, and the *Monarch* has been running into a merchant vessel in broad daylight. The public has begun to enquire savagely whether the officers of the fleet are fit to manage the new iron-clads, and, nervously, whether it is well to build so many of these delicate monsters. The Admiralty has, since its conduct in the *Vanguard* affair and its failure to bring Prince Leiningen and Captain Welch of the Queen's yacht before a court-martial, and its issue of the ridiculous fugitive-slave proclamation, to bear a double share of the blame of everything that goes wrong, and it is lucky for them that Parliament is not sitting. The Prince of Wales's visit to India has thus far proved a great success. There has been a very respectable amount of enthusiasm and good weather, and the native princes have, on the whole, behaved very well.

The Turkish troubles are still the main question of European politics, but there is little that is new about them. The probability of Austrian interference, of which we have spoken in an article elsewhere, grows steadily. The number of Montenegrins who are reinforcing the insurgents increases, and the Prince excuses himself for letting them go by pleading the inability of his territory to support both the refugees from Herzegovina and his own fighting men. If he has to feed the wives and children of the insurgents he can only do it by letting his own able-bodied subjects cross the line. The Austrian Government, in the meantime, finding that dealing out rations to the insurgents on her soil was enormously increasing their numbers, has proclaimed a commutation for a round sum in money. At Berlin the talk in the higher circles is that the difficulty will be settled peaceably, and the same story is told at St. Petersburg; but the general belief is that it is based on the hypothesis that when the moment comes to intervene, the Porte will not resist. All signs, in short, point to an Austrian occupation of Herzegovina in the spring.

The horrible story which came from Bremen that Thomas, the owner of the infernal machine which exploded on the wharf, was going to ship it, and that it was to blow up by clockwork when the vessel had been a certain number of days at sea, so as to secure him a heavy amount of insurance, has not been confirmed in any way. No trace of any such insurance has been discovered, and it is time to ask whether the unfortunate wretch was not a lunatic, and the story of his motive an invention. It is, of course, very likely he was going to ship the explosive material, but this a lunatic might do, or plan doing, while the arrangement of the insurance would have required a persistence and foresight of which an unsound mind would hardly be capable. In fact, no sign of adequate motive has been discovered. The suicide, too, remains to be accounted for. Anybody capable of entering on the diabolical enterprise of blowing up a passenger vessel at sea would hardly suffer much remorse from seeing his machine go off prematurely on a crowded wharf, or be so chagrined by the commercial miscarriage as to kill himself if sane. The examination of his accomplices, or of the persons he employed, ought, however, to throw full light on the matter. Travellers, at least, will be greatly relieved if it should prove a case of insane self-accusation.

## "HARD WINTERS" IN POLITICS.

BOSTON has just had an experience in municipal government by no means unlike that with which New York is now so familiar. We shall not go into its details here, and have given the main facts of it in another column. It is enough to say that, after two or three years' trial of honest government under just the kind of Mayor that municipal reformers are constantly sighing for, the politicians got tired of the experiment, and the Republicans, as they have more than once done in New York, combined with a portion of the Democrats to prevent his re-election, to do away with the commissions by which a portion of the administration is honestly and efficiently executed, and to introduce a régime in which the city funds would be liberally expended in all ways, but above all in the employment of labor for the mere purpose of charitable relief, and without regard either to the needs of the city or the capacity of the taxpayers. Some of the manifestoes issued by the coalition were declarations of communism, of the right of the poor to live on the rich and well-to-do, as pure as ever issued from Belleville. The movement was defeated by a small majority of about 2,600 in a vote of 27,000, and after tremendous exertions on the part of the more intelligent and honest classes. The appeals made to them by the press to "uprise" and "strike for their homes and altars" were as solemn and pathetic as were ever addressed to men about to fight a decisive battle in actual warfare, though not accompanied by the gross vituperation which forms so marked and so amusing a feature of municipal contests in New York; and the excitement in the city was greater than has been witnessed since the war. It was probably saved from capture and ransom by the enforcement of the constitutional requirement that the voter shall produce a receipted bill for his poll-tax, and be able to read and write in order to secure registry. This shut out 17,000 able-bodied citizens from the exercise of the franchise, and in all probability saved "the property-holders and substantial men."

The result is of course gratifying. All modes of escape from imminent danger are welcome, and there is no question that the safety of our great cities from legalized sack in the form of high wages and profuse charity, lies and must always lie in the presence of a majority opposed to schemes of spoliation. No arrangement of municipal government which now seems practical will deliver any American community from the necessity of being able to beat the Short-Hairs at the polls in a mere count of noses. But then, to procure real and permanent security, the majority of the taxpayers over the non-taxpayers would have to be large enough to allow for divisions in the ranks of the former over extra-municipal questions, and nothing but extraordinary care and foresight will ever make or keep it so. This care and foresight it is not a whit too soon for all the great cities to begin to display. In spite of all that one reads in the newspapers about the evils of municipal government in our day being due to the inattention of the rich to their political duties, the editors and all other intelligent men know in their hearts that it is not true. Nobody who has any real acquaintance with these evils ever pretends in a private room to believe that if the Swallow-Tails went diligently to primary meetings all would go well. The current talk on these subjects is part of the political cant of our day, and perhaps the most mischievous and saddest part of it. It is part of the melancholy effort which has been so often made in various parts of the world to form governments not with reference to the actual society to be governed, but to an ideal society, which neither those who talk about it nor anybody else has ever seen or will ever see. The persons who expect to save American cities by driving the rich men to the primary meetings, have their heads filled with the notion that the modern city is simply a New England town with a large number of people in it; that the growth of population, and the consequent changes in the mental, moral, social, and industrial condition of the population, have brought no change in the nature of the political problems with which such a community has to deal, and they keep singing with almost touching pertinacity the old psalm in which the merchants and traders are assured that they are going to be ruined if they do not "work" in the caucuses.

The late election in Boston shows, however, the direction in which the path of safety lies. In this case, nearly all the corrupt elements in both parties had the grace to unite with the men who wanted high wages for little work, and to issue manifestoes proclaiming their aims and desires with perfect simplicity and sincerity, so that the matter in controversy was presented to the honest and industrious taxpayers in the clearest and most definite shape, without disguise or concealment. With this before their eyes, the latter were able to unite, though they had not a single party organization at their back, and to defeat the spoliators, if not signally, sufficiently. The main object to be kept in view in all charters ought, therefore, plainly to be the presentation of municipal issues in the most distinct shape; the diminution, in other words, of the number of facts, whether they be laws or ordinances or men, on which the voter has to form an opinion before voting. If anybody will give himself the trouble to examine into the working of what is called "practical politics" to-day, either in city, State, or nation, he will find all the efforts of those who live by politics directed to preventing this state of things—that is, to producing the multiplication of the subjects which the voter must understand before he can vote; the multiplication of the elections he must prepare for, of candidates he must know about, of the "charges" he must examine, and of the "records" he must study. They have been so far successful, too, that they have literally made politics an impossible pursuit, or even object of close attention, to the great body of the industrious classes of the community, who are thus forced into hiring professionals to extricate them from the more serious political perils, as the burghers often did in the Middle Ages. The general result is that we have in the States most largely engaged in commerce and manufactures a political system which may be fairly said to be suited only to communities of idle slaveholders, and absolutely unsuited to the wants of a busy people.

Another mode in which the Short-Hair forces are now being largely increased in all the large cities is worthy of the serious attention of taxpayers, both for its efficiency and its ingenuity. "The drift of population into the large cities" has now for a good many years been attracting the notice both of economists and politicians. It includes of course a great many industrious and honest people, but it also includes a large number of the shiftless, the fickle, the irresolute, and the characterless, both among those who have regular callings and those who have none. The result is that the helpless and half-criminal element in our city population is increasing steadily from year to year in cities like this. It has, therefore, now become the regular thing in New York to announce every November that we are going to have a "hard winter," and judged by the test usually applied—the number of the unemployed—every winter is "hard," and the winters grow "harder," no matter what may be the state of the currency or of trade, for the number of people who have "got no work" increases, and it is unhappily difficult or impossible to distinguish those who are really glad to be without work from those who are sorry. The provision made by charity for taking care of them—by well-directed as well as misdirected charity—also grows, and the news of it spreads all over the State and all over the Union, and operates as a steady draft on the idleness and the improvidence and dishonesty of the country districts. As all these new-comers are armed after a brief stay with the power of voting away the property of the industrious, the common councils of the great cities are becoming every year more and more appalled by the sufferings of the poor, and impressed with the necessity of providing them with sham labor, by levies on the property of the taxpayer, until, if things go on as they are going, we shall have in nearly all of them before long the germ of "national workshops," in which pauper voters will be maintained in half-idleness, to the permanent detriment of their bodies and souls, by the honest and industrious workingmen. The evil to which we are drawing attention exists already in nearly every city, and is but the narrow end of a very large wedge. Now is the time to check it peremptorily and permanently, and now is the time, too, for charitable persons who are occupying themselves with the wholesale relief of

the able-bodied poor to call to mind the monstrous social and political evils which, as has been proved by much experience, lie hidden under this form of benevolence. There is no work of charity which requires more care or courage, and there is none into which so many rash and ignorant people rush.

#### THE FUTURE OF THE EASTERN QUESTION.

THE correspondent of the London *Times* has had an interview with Gen. Ignatieff, the Russian Minister at Constantinople, in which the latter conversed on the Turkish question with all the frankness which Prince Bismarck has made fashionable among diplomatists, and related among other things what he said to the Sultan in the now celebrated conversation which, about two months ago, seemed to give such a serious turn to the crisis in Herzegovina. The substance of it was that his Majesty's case was hopeless; that the only thing to be done was to reform, but reform was impossible, because it could only be carried out through equality, and equality would involve the ruin of the Ottoman Empire. In Europe there are say 4,000,000 of Mussulmans, from among whom all the Government officials are taken, and who exercise over the Christians a most oppressive and insulting social superiority. The Empire cannot be saved without the removal of this inequality, but it cannot be removed by legislation. This has been tried, and failed. The contempt of the Mussulman for the Christian and the hatred of the Christian for the Mussulman have got into the manners and traditions and even into the religion of the population, and nothing now can get them out. The Christians are naturally prevented from seeking or considering any solution of the problem, except the expulsion of the Turks, by the example of Serbia, and by the sympathy of Dalmatia and Croatia and Montenegro. The Servians, they say, were at the beginning of this century worse off than they are now; they rose and expelled the Turks, and have ever since been free and happy. The Dalmatians, Croats, and Montenegrins, too, with whom they are in daily intercourse—men of the same race, language, and religion—are living under their very eyes secure, free, and prosperous, and equal before the law. Why should a Bosnian or Bulgarian be any worse off? Everybody, therefore, is giving up in despair all consideration of a *modus vivendi*, and yet nobody has anything to say about the future, except that the Turkish rule in Europe is near its close—how near nobody ventures to guess; and nobody likes to meddle actively in the crisis, because of the terrible responsibility that would follow. Russia might, as Gen. Ignatieff points out, by merely giving the signal to the Montenegrins to take part in the fray, ensure such a revival of the insurrection as would cause its spread into Bulgaria and Roumelia, or, in other words, as would set the whole of European Turkey in a blaze, and cover that vast and fertile region with blood and fire, and possibly compel occupation by Austria or Russia, or both, in the interest of humanity. But what then? The overthrow of the Sultan's authority and the organization of some sort of Christian rule would follow as a matter of course; but no real and permanent pacification could take place without the removal of the 4,000,000 of Mussulmans now resident in Europe, and owners of large amounts of property. In all the other provinces which have thrown off the Turkish yoke—Hungary, Moldavia, Wallachia, Bessarabia, and Serbia—the withdrawal of the Mussulman residents has followed as a matter of course. In Serbia they emigrated because, as was acknowledged on all hands, it was morally certain they would be massacred if they stayed, and they sold their property because they knew they could not collect their rents. But then each of these cases occurred at a considerable interval from the others, and the displacement of the population in each was comparatively small. Nothing like the dislodgment of 4,000,000 of persons of all ages and sexes from their homes, followed by a forced sale of their immovables, has ever occurred in modern times, or anything approaching to it, except the expulsion of the Moors from Spain; and no such process as that would be tolerated by public opinion in our time.

To these difficulties, which are of no ordinary character, must be added the difficulty of settling who is to have Constantinople; and, taken altogether, they constitute a full and sufficient reason for the reluctance of all the Great Powers to undertake the task of reorganizing Turkey, and for the general disposition to wait and see what will turn up. The knowledge that the Powers are waiting, and that a crisis of the first magnitude in the history of the Empire has really supervened, of course gives the insurgents extraordinary encouragement, and enables them to keep the field in one way or another. They are now standing tolerably well on the defensive—that is, the troops are unable to disperse the bands, which assail small bodies with more or less success, and now and then get the best of a conflict which may fairly be called a battle. The probability is that in the spring matters will not look any better than they do now. The rebels will not have expelled the troops, and the troops will not have suppressed the rebellion, and an Austrian corps will cross the frontier and occupy Herzegovina and Bosnia, as it occupied Wallachia and Moldavia in 1854, in trust "for whom it may concern," and the Turkish forces will retire, protesting loudly; Germany and Russia will pretend to be greatly alarmed, and will call for a conference. It would be very dangerous to attempt to predict what will happen then, but it is safe to say that nothing will happen which has not been already arranged. The problem which a conference will have to solve has undoubtedly been much simplified by the action of England with regard to the Suez Canal, as it is taken abroad as well as in England as a clear indication that she has got what she wants, and that the ownership of Constantinople is now a matter of secondary importance to her. The Russian and German semi-official papers both treat the acquisition of the shares as a bold, wise, and natural step, as we ventured some weeks ago to predict they would. To Russia it is pure gain, as it is an abandonment of the position which led to the Crimean war. The unknown element in the affair is what Germany really looks forward to. The acquiescence in British ascendancy in Egypt does not by any means indicate her acquiescence in the Russian acquisition of Constantinople.

There can be little question that it is the uncertainty, and it may be said the anxiety, arising out of this highly interesting but perplexing situation which is producing the extraordinary financial depression which prevails throughout Europe. The cloud which has been hanging over the diplomatic world ever since the Treaty of Adrianople in 1829, when the Russians passed the Balkan, is apparently about to break; and when it breaks, it will bring about a greater change, both industrial and political, than has taken place in the Old World since the fall of the Greek Empire. The enormous and fertile region which that event withdrew from the current of European commerce and civilization, containing even now, when not peopled over one-fourth of its capacity, a population of over 15,000,000, could hardly be reunited to Christendom, and placed under the rule of law, without producing marked effects on the trade and politics of the whole Western world, and, combined with the passage of Egypt under English sway, without making the Mediterranean once more the centre of extraordinary social and commercial activity. The retreat of the Mussulmans from its shores on all sides could hardly be long delayed. The power that held the Bosphorus would inevitably push the Turks far into the interior of Asia Minor, and Tunis and Morocco could not long survive, even in nominal independence, the overthrow of the Sultan. In fact, the amount of materials for political speculation offered by the present condition of the Turkish Empire is so great that it is almost presumption to attempt the slightest handling of them in a newspaper article.

#### THE BOUFFE IN POLITICS.

WITHIN the past few years the lyric stage of America has been enriched by the importation of a novel and interesting form of art known as *opéra bouffe*. Into the origin of this modern branch of the opera we have no intention of enquiring; it is, so far as we know it, a French importation, brought over here shortly after the close of the war, and, after a

brief struggle with the Puritan traditions of American society, triumphantly domesticated as a legitimate kind of entertainment. When the "Grande Duchesse" first made her improper appearance on the stage, a shudder, it is true, went through the press and the municipal governments of several cities; and in one or two cases, if we remember right, the local mayor intervened for the protection of public morals, and "viewed" in person the antics of *Prince Paul*, *General Boun*, *Fritz*, and the Sovereign of the Duchy of Gerolstein, for the purpose of discovering the exact nature of the immoralities which the law must be called upon to suppress. This virtuous attempt at a censorship of the *bouffe*, however, failed, and after a short struggle the operas of Offenbach, Lecocq, and Hervé carried the day; they now form a recognized feature of the winter's amusement; and even the dramatic critics, who a few years ago always referred to representations of these authors' works in terms of stern displeasure, as being immoral, low, vulgar, subversive of our finer sentiments, now speak of the "merry notes of Offenbach," the "familiar strains of Lecocq," the "drolleries" of the composer of the "Petit Faust," or the "laughable oddities" in the situations of the "Jolie Parfumeuse." We understand now that, to crown the work of the Centennial next year, Offenbach himself, the founder and master of this latter-day opera, is to cross the Atlantic and illustrate in some one or more representations the manner of the French school.

Moralists and mayors having municipal responsibilities may quarrel with all this, but it must be admitted that the spread of the Offenbachian opera, not merely among the French and other loose people of the Continent, but among our own simple-minded, virtuous race, is a fact which to the philosopher is interesting and worthy of explanation, and will one of these days become a matter of some historical interest to such of our descendants as may devote their time to analyzing the puzzling peculiarities of the nineteenth century, in the same way that the dialogues and choruses of the Aristophanic comedy of Attica have become valuable materials for study by us. A highly popular form of art must have some basis in the society in which it flourishes; even burlesque does not make people laugh unless they recognize the thing travestied, and we may be sure that we should never be amused by *bouffe* if there was not a *bouffe* echo within us.

In the modern French comic opera that which is perhaps its most important feature, and has probably contributed more than anything else to its success, is the plot and dialogue. There are of course the music and the lights and the dresses, but these are subordinated generally to the central idea of a *bouffe* comedy. And when we analyze this central idea, whether in the "Grande Duchesse," "Madame l'Archiduc," "Giroflé-Girofla," or any of the others, we find that amid all the diversities of the plots and situations there is a link which unites and harmonizes them. They are all founded upon a complete inversion of the moral world and the social institutions as they have been handed down to us from the past. They are not strict satires any more than the adventures of Harlequin and Columbine are satires. The world they represent is a world apart, or rather it is our own world upside down. In the *bouffe* world the metaphysical prophecy of one of the "Ben Gaultier Ballads,"

"Cause and Effect shall from their throne be hurled,  
And end their strife in suicidal yells,"

seems to have been fulfilled, and there is no longer any causal connection between moral antecedent and consequent. It is a world in which a fat boor is suddenly made generalissimo because the head of the government has fallen in love with him, and on being asked what service he has seen and what wounds he has received, and replying *aucune campagne, aucune blessure*, is promoted on the spot; in which generals announce their plans of campaign in a *pas seul*, and intimate to their audience their extreme desire to be found somewhere else than at the front should the enemy make his appearance; in which the marks of service that distinguish the veteran from the raw recruit are scratches which he has received in getting over walls; in which a conspiracy is rewarded with high official station, and a crime is the first step in promotion; in which judges inform suitors with gravity that their decision will depend on the amount of the bribe, the sheriff is in the pay of the thief, and acts of successful vice are rewarded with the applause of the good and wise. Ladies of undoubted reputation rewarded with prizes for their virtue; kings, queens, emperors, dukes, who govern their dominions by putting the incompetent and wicked in the chief offices, and making ability, dignity, and honor public laughing-stocks; geniuses not distinguishable from fools; generals who run off at sight of the enemy, and as they get under shelter sing battle-songs describing their triumphs—these are the *dramatis personæ* of a world in which the ordinary relations of life, the common rules of morality, the instincts and emotions which keep us in the social ranks, are completely inverted, and we find

ourselves remitted to what would be a moral chaos were it not bound into a new and pleasant system by the kind of humor we have been discussing.

But is there nothing in the real world of which all this is a travesty? If Offenbach is coming over here next year, it is important that we should consider this question; for if there is no *bouffe* in our politics or society, it will be a mistake for him to attempt to make us laugh. Of course we have no grand-dukes or grand-duchesses, but we may without them have *bouffe*. As a mere suggestion, we will throw out for the benefit of the serious-minded a hint or two on this subject, derived from our recent history.

If we were ourselves going to compose a *bouffe* opera for an American audience, some of the characters and incidents should be the following: In the first place, we would introduce an "Old Man" who has got possession of a rich city by stealing from the city treasury and bribing his way up, and who, as soon as his crimes are discovered, is offered as a reward a statue to be erected by public subscription, and is obliged to decline on the ground that it would be more fitting to put it up after his death. An excellent scene would be one in which he should receive from one messenger a telegram announcing that he has been elected to the State Senate and another that he has just been indicted by the Grand Jury; and a capital point might be made of his being asked, when he is finally convicted and sent to jail, to state his occupation, and his replying that he is a "statesman." We would have him imprisoned, too, and "escape" in a carriage furnished him by the sheriff on the day before he is to be tried; and we would have the concluding scene a serenade—a politico-operative serenade—of the "Old Man" by "the Boys." There should be another thief, too, an old "pal" of the first, who should rise to high position in the financial administration of the city by the same simple means used by the first; and when the two have together emptied the city treasury, and they are at the end of their rope, we would have them call in three or four elderly and highly respectable citizens and taxpayers to investigate their accounts by the examination of such documents as they chose to exhibit, the examination ending with a certificate that the city finances were being so well administered that within a few years the entire debt would be extinguished—the whole winding up with a taxpayers' congratulatory chorus. We would have a "railroad man" in control of one of the most important highways of the country, the revenues of which he should use to support an opera-house, a private militia regiment, a line of steamboats, and to "make it right with the Old Man." We would have him a colonel on land and an admiral on the high seas, and he should go robbing and swindling his way upward until, having bankrupted his road, and done what he could to make his city uninhabitable, and been assassinated by one of his many victims, we would have his fellow-citizens turn out in crowds to decorate his grave with flowers, a leading clergyman pronounce an eulogy over his grave, and, finally, we would have a monument erected commemorating the efforts of the deceased in the cause of cheap transportation and the development of commerce. There should be parts, moreover, for a bench of elective judges, one of whom should "expose" the character of a brother judge in court for the benefit of the bar, while another should sign orders of court "at chambers" in the house of a noted courtesan; and there should be a scene to illustrate the nature of the elective system, which might be called "Counted In," in which the Old Man and two or three of the Boys should be discovered rearranging the votes cast by their fellow-citizens. Among the *dramatis personæ* there should be a Mayor, a lawyer by profession, engaged in "auditing" bills by voting that they should be audited in all cases by the persons presenting them, and after having in this way enabled the Old Man and the Boys to enrich themselves, he should be indicted by the grand jury and escape through a disagreement of the petit jury, after which we would have him abandon his profession and take to the stage, appearing in the part of a bank-clerk unjustly suspected of robbing his employer. A chorus of one political party explaining that all these little peculiarities of society and politics were the result of "centralization"; a chorus of the other party explaining that it was all due to the fact that the Old Man and the Boys were members of the first party; a chorus of Reformers, led by a professional "pool-seller" and ex-prizefighter, explaining that the difficulty was that the good and wise men had ceased to take an interest in politics and had left them to the corrupt and bad—these might be introduced too. What with "auditors," "plasterers," "safe-makers," "laborers" (these might be discovered playing a game of seven-up during the hours of toil in a corner-lot), and "bummers," there would be no lack of what Mr. Daly calls "contemporaneous human interest."

But it would not be necessary to confine the scene to municipal life. *Bouffe* may be national as well as local. A Chief Magistrate, a Secretary of the Treasury, an Internal Revenue Commissioner, Supervisors, Distillers,

Rectifiers, and Whiskey-Thieves, might make some of the *dramatis persone* in this case. A silent, cold, sagacious man, deeply interested in the education of the young and engaged in a stern warfare on all forms of corruption, should be introduced as our *bouffe* chief-magistrate. A discovery should be made that an organized band of robbers had formed a conspiracy with the Government revenue officials, and that it could not be broken up unless the latter were removed from their posts and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue should issue an order to that effect; on which the silent, cold, and sagacious man should immediately issue an order countermanding the removal; this might be followed by a solo with whiskey-thief chorus, "Let no guilty man escape." If it were not considered too extravagant, the Secretary of the Treasury might delegate to the chief of the Ring the duty of detecting the frauds which he was perpetrating, first carefully investigating his claims to the office, and issuing the commission as soon as he was satisfied that he was an unfit man. Accusations of fraud and corruption, instead of leading, as of old, to hard feeling, should endear the accused to the head of the Government, defeat at the polls should pave the way to a foreign mission, and nothing short of incarceration in the penitentiary should keep a criminal out of office. The chief-magistrate should bring the country back to specie payment by directing his finance minister to issue currency whenever the market was "tight" and contract whenever it was "easy;" he should reform the branch of administration relating to dependent tribes of savages by allowing the head of that branch of the Government against which charges have been brought to appoint his own court of enquiry, define the nature of the investigation, and name the witnesses; and this court, having found the principal charges sustained, should give him a warm letter of eulogy, thanking him for the able and honorable service he has rendered the Government, and a chorus of Christian ministers should invoke the blessing of heaven upon the result.

To support the leading Reformers, there should be a Boss reappointed to office as soon as he had been removed on charges of fraud; a collector of customs performing the duties of his office by cruising about in an armed vessel to prevent the assembling of a local legislature; an ambassadorial claim-agent; and a private secretary of the Chief Reformer under indictment for fraud. There might be an investigation, too, into the foreign financial agency of the Government in the interest of reform, and, on its being ascertained that it was in the hands of eminently skilful foreigners, it should be taken out of their charge on the ground of want of "patriotism," and put into that of a firm of unknown and irresponsible speculators, who should employ a lobbyist at the centre of government to send them news as to the intentions of the Government with regard to the currency and finance; and as "counsel" to this firm it would not be a bad idea to suggest the father-in-law of the stern Reformer himself. The Government should be founded on universal suffrage, and the funds necessary to keep the elective machinery in motion in any great crisis should be chiefly provided out of the proceeds of frauds on the revenue. With music, lights, and dresses, and a lively dialogue, a very attractive little American opera might be made of these simple materials.

#### THE YALE AND HARVARD CATALOGUES.

CAMBRIDGE, December 7.

THE Harvard Catalogue is out at last—a long time after its rival, as is, indeed, only natural. The Harvard term begins two weeks later, and the catalogue contains about half its bulk of examination-papers, while the Yale catalogue contains none at all. In one matter, then, we have no data for comparison between the two colleges; he who would institute one must consult the files of examination-papers no doubt preserved in the library at New Haven.

The number of teachers is as follows:

	Yale.	Harvard.
Professors.....	44	49
Assistant Professors.....	3	2
Lecturers.....	9	2
Tutors.....	10	11
Instructors.....	7	27
Demonstrators and Assistants.....	9	9
Total.....	86	119

At Harvard, it will be seen, there is a very large force of assistant professors, holding their appointments, we believe, for the term of five years. Appointments are made, too, at Harvard, in certain cases, for a single year. Of the instructors, 12 belong to this class; of the assistants, 6; of the lecturers, 1. This latter arrangement exists at Yale also, but only, it would seem, in the Scientific School.

At Yale, 19 teachers are graduates of the past six years; at Harvard, 31. At each college, 10 of these hold one-year appointments.

There are at Yale no officers corresponding to the Dean and Registrar at Harvard, through whom the decisions of the Faculty on disciplinary matters are communicated to the students, and through whose hands petitions pass; nor to the Secretary, who keeps the record of discipline and scholarship; nor, finally, to the Proctors, who keep order at examinations, and have charge of some of the entries where students lodge.

The number of students is:

	At Yale.	At Harvard.
In the Theological Department.....	89	19
In the Law Department.....	78	161
In the Medical Department.....	42	192
	217	372
In the Department of Philosophy and the Arts:		
Graduate Students.....	63	Candidates for higher degrees. 35
Special Students.....	3	—
Undergraduates.....	52	776
Scientific School.....	224	84
Dental Students.....	—	33
Bussey (Agricultural) Institution.....	—	5
Holders of Fellowships.....	2	6
Other Resident Graduates.....	—	13
Episcopal Theological Students.....	—	15
Total.....	1088	1289
Deduct for names inserted twice.....	37	11
	1051	1278

The number of students to an instructor is, in Yale, 12.2; in Harvard, 10.7.

The number of students in the college proper, added to those in the Scientific School, is about the same in the two colleges: at Yale, 806; at Harvard, 810. No doubt the Institute of Technology in Boston takes many students who would otherwise go to the Lawrence Scientific School; while the Sheffield Scientific School in New Haven receives many who would be in the Academic Department if the latter allowed a free choice of studies. The only choice whatever allowed is between French and German, and between the classics and the calculus, both Junior year. Of course, experience must have shown, and shown as long ago as 1860—for the same regulation stood on the catalogue of that year—that these are the only studies students are competent to choose or reject for themselves. Here are twenty-five subjects,\* counting French and German as two, although in reality no one man is allowed to take both in the Yale curriculum; and we may assume that just so much of each is taught as, added to a fit portion of each of the other twenty-five, will cause the average subject to make the greatest progress towards becoming a cultivated man. However, unless I am quite sure my son is in reality an average subject, in no single respect differing from the typical American youth, it is beyond a doubt that some other course than the one long experience has prescribed will best suit his case; some course, namely, which he chooses for himself, or else his instructors or I choose for him.

The following subjects studied at Yale are not studied at Harvard: Natural Theology, Constitutional History, General Philology, the History of English Literature, and Hygiene; and the following, studied at Harvard, are wanting at Yale: Hebrew, Sanskrit, the History of Latin Literature, Roman Law, Italian, Spanish, the Theory of Music, the Fine Arts, Botany, Comparative Anatomy, and Zoölogy. Of course, in each case our list applies only to the college proper, to what is now known at Yale as the Undergraduate Academical Department.

Every student at Harvard must take during the whole of his Freshman year (unless, indeed, he shows on examination that he knows enough of certain subjects to be exempted from pursuing them) Greek, Latin, German or French—depending upon which modern language he presented at his examination for admission—Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry. The prescribed studies of Sophomore year are Rhetoric, French—unless a French examination was passed on admission or at some subsequent time during Freshman year—Political Economy, the Constitution of the United States, and History. In Junior year, Rhetoric, Logic, Locke's 'Essay on the Human Understanding,' and Physics (lectures) are required. Prescribed studies take up the whole of the Freshman year, and about one-third of the time of the two succeeding ones. A Freshman has sixteen or seventeen hours a week of required attendance, a Sophomore thirteen, a Junior fifteen, and a Senior twelve, besides in the last three classes written exercises. These exercises are all that is prescribed for a Senior; the rest of his work is in electives. The Yale Catalogue gives no information as to the hours of weekly attendance; in 1860, they were for most students sixteen.

\* Namely: Greek, Latin, Mathematics, History, Rhetoric, Composition, Physics, Logic, Astronomy, French or German, Metaphysics, Political Economy, Chemistry, Natural Theology, Moral Philosophy, Geology, Anatomy, International Law, Constitutional History, the Constitution of the United States, Philology, the History of English Literature, the History of Greek Literature, and Hygiene.

Although any student at Harvard who chooses to do so may pursue a course similar to that prescribed at Yale, it will be seen that classics, mathematics, modern languages, and chemistry are not insisted upon after Freshman year. Just how many students at Harvard keep on with their classics and mathematics one year or two years longer it would be interesting to know; the catalogue, however, furnishes no data of precisely this character. We can only say that in the present Sophomore class, containing 182 members, enough men take one or more courses in Greek (there are twelve different elective courses in all) to give 126 men a course apiece, and enough take Latin (ten elective courses) to give 139 men a course apiece; the number in mathematics (ten electives) is only 45. The statistics for the Junior class, which numbers 194, are: Greek, 77; Latin, 100; mathematics, 22. Counting each man as having taken only a single course in each study, and those who take Greek as taking Latin also, then 73 per cent. have chosen to continue their classics, and 25 their mathematics, during Sophomore year; while 91 Juniors in a hundred continue or, it may be, resume, after having abandoned for a year, their Latin and Greek, and 11 their mathematics.

In this connection, although it has in reality no bearing on the question how far the free choice of American students would coincide with the course usually marked out for them by the Faculty, it may be worth while to compare the numbers who choose each of the modern languages. Harvard offers this year, in English, Spanish, and Italian, three courses each, and in French and German four. The number representing the popularity of Spanish is 31; English, 45; Italian, 63; French, 193; and German, 220; the most difficult modern language is the favorite choice. These numbers are for all four classes, Seniors and Freshmen as well as Sophomores and Juniors. Freshmen are allowed to recite in the elective which their proficiency in any particular study would enable them to join. This year, in a class of 252, there were taken 74 electives, modern language or other, in place of one or the other prescribed course of Freshman year.

The requirements for admission to Harvard are more difficult than at Yale; the Harvard Catalogue adds to the Yale list a knowledge of Greek Composition, of Ancient History and Geography, and of Physical Geography, besides the elements of some physical science. At Exeter, it takes a year longer to prepare for Harvard than for Yale. The difference between the requirements of the two colleges is seen to be still greater if we take into account the more advanced courses in Mathematics and in Classics upon which some candidates for admission to Harvard come prepared. Separate sections for the better scholars are formed in some of the studies of Freshman year, and sometimes in subsequent years. At Yale, we notice that Freshmen still seem to review during the first term some of the mathematics a knowledge of which is requisite for admission.

There are many other points on which a comparison between our two foremost universities, if one had time to make it, would prove of the highest interest, just as there are of course many things about which an old graduate would gladly be informed, but which it does not belong to a catalogue to set forth: the kind of intercourse in the recitation-room between the teacher and the individuals of his class, the town and gown spirit, the footing on which members of different classes meet, the life in college societies, etc., etc. From the two catalogues, the impression one gains is that Harvard is a complex organization, constantly engaging in new forms of activity, while at Yale a system the reverse of complex, in which the experience of the college authorities has for many years been able to detect scarcely a flaw, is clung to with an affectionate pertinacity which excludes the supposition that it has not, in their opinion, perfectly stood the test of time. The generous rivalry of Yale and Harvard—a rivalry from which so much good to the cause of higher education in America should flow—would cease if the one college should ever gain too great a start upon the other. It is only by comparing from time to time the stand each takes that such a misfortune can be averted.

A YALE GRADUATE.

## Correspondence.

### A LETTER FROM "PI-UTE CHIEF."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Referring to your reply to my note of the 26th ultimo contained in the *Nation* of the 9th instant, I beg to suggest that every fair-minded and decent man who reads it will not fail to mark the great distinction between your statement quoted in my note and your reply. You first charged me with writing certain letters "defending Delano and whitewash-

ing the Interior Department and the Indian Administration, and of generally taking the part of counsel for the defence." Now you say the letters "were in substance an attack on Prof. Marsh, and were so constructed as to have no meaning except as a defence of Delano and Smith." Your first statement was false in everything intended to be conveyed by it, and is so admitted to be by your second one. Your second statement is not only equally false in every particular, but is also a very weak and contemptible effort to dodge the responsibility of the first one.

You say that when I "deny the authorship of the 'Pi-ute' letters, you will produce the proof." But I do not deny their authorship. I did write them, and, as they are the proof you threaten to produce, I shall be sure of the verdict of every man who read them that your second charge is equally false with the first one, and doubly as mean. Now, publish the letters fairly, and let us have the verdict of your readers, as we shall certainly have of the readers of the *Globe-Democrat*.

I insist upon holding you to the charges as originally made, and am not to be led off upon side-issues in reference to "puffing the chairman" or "attacking Prof. Marsh." Both these charges are also false, but we will discuss them when they are reached in their order. I have no newspaper, and am therefore greatly at a disadvantage in such a contest as this; but when I obtain the verdict of the public against you upon the original charges so wantonly and maliciously made against me, I will then be ready to take up the other issues of fact between the *Nation* and myself, and such other slanders of the *Tribune* as the *Nation* may be willing to endorse and become responsible for, and will abide the decision of an intelligent and honest public upon all of them.

If Prof. Marsh thinks I have attacked him, he is very able to defend himself; and if he, like myself, is not an editor of a newspaper, we can try the matter upon an equal footing. Indeed, if he has any cause of complaint against me, he may cite me before the Faculty of Yale College, and I will be tried by them and submit to their verdict, when I am fully heard.

Respectfully,

THO. C. FLETCHER.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11, 1875.

[We print the above now as a matter of justice to the writer, but are unable, for want of space, to reply to it till next week. It will be observed that Governor Fletcher does not deny that he is "Pi-ute Chief," and the only question now at issue is as to the nature of the correspondence. To ask us to republish all these letters, which filled some dozen or so columns of a daily paper, in the *Nation*, is one of those requests which we should think more natural from a real, naked, red Pi-ute than from a white brave, accustomed to the ways of civilized life and journalism, but is, no doubt, to be explained as a stroke of aboriginal humor, in which, as the readers of the "Pi-ute" letters know, the ex-Governor is an expert. We will, however, do all we can next week, short of republishing the entire series, by reproducing as many extracts from the correspondence as possible, showing its general drift. We believe that Mr. Fletcher has already published this second letter to the *Nation* in the *St. Louis Republican*; why, we are not informed, but we suppose because he has "no newspaper" in which to reply to attacks.—ED. NATION.]

### PROFESSOR TYNDALL AND AMERICAN SCIENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I have been favored with a copy of the *Nation* of October 28, and would ask permission to make a few remarks on the critique of my work on 'Sound' therein contained.

With regard to Professor Henry, I hope I am not presumptuous in venturing the opinion, and expressing the belief, that his earlier scientific labors were marked by rare power and originality, and that his later years have been usefully and honorably employed in the service of his country. Such, if I dare say so, are the sentiments which I have ever expressed regarding Professor Henry here and elsewhere.

When I first learned that he was in danger of falling into what I considered to be grave scientific error, I went as far as friendliness dared go to avert it. I addressed to him a private letter, in which I tried to impress upon him the completeness and conclusiveness of the evidence which he seemed disposed to call in question. He did not honor that letter with any notice, preferring to discuss the subject publicly in the 'Report of the Washington Lighthouse Board.' He was clearly within his right in doing

so; but I submit that I only exercised my right when I met him on ground thus chosen by himself.

No English gentleman that I have consulted can discern in what I have written any violation of the dignity of scientific debate; but your article would lead to the inference that I had both violated common honesty and taken leave of common sense. I will not quote your words, because I cherish the hope that when you have reflected on them you will regret them. When I say "you," I mean the Editor of the *Nation*, whose acquaintance I had the honor to make, and whose kindness I had the privilege to experience, in New York: I do not mean the writer of the article. Let me respectfully assure you, then, that when I spoke of being "deflected by authority," "Professor Henry's solution of Ocean Echoes" was not at all in my mind, nor his "ruin," partial or total, in my calculations. Consider, I pray you, how impossible it is that this could have been the case. The "deflection" spoken of is expressly described as occurring at the outset of an investigation begun in May, 1873, whereas the *Washington Report* containing "Professor Henry's Solution of Ocean Echoes" is the Report for 1874, which did not reach Europe until the spring of 1875. This, then, is the crumbling foundation on which your critic builds his odious charge. In verity, the remark on which he pours his peroratory invective was not meant for "laudation" of any kind, but merely to show the "polar" character of authority—its good side and its bad.

It is easy, as you know, Mr. Editor, to sneer and to assail, but less easy to show, without going into details not worth the labor, that the sneer is unmeaning, and the assault unfair. Nevertheless, the broad lines on which, in the present instance, I would meet my anonymous assailant may, I think, be made clear. He industriously mixes together things which ought to be kept apart—experiments on fog-signals, and enquiries into "the causes which affect the transmission of sound through the atmosphere." The "blank" which I proposed to fill is stated, with unmistakable clearness, to have reference solely to such "causes." Neither Herschel nor Robinson, as far as I know, ever made an experiment on fog-signals; still I quote them. Why? Because they are the most eminent and authoritative exponents of the theories of acoustic opacity which up to last year were entertained by the highest scientific minds. Theirs, moreover, and Arago's (not Professor Henry's), was the "authority" which "deflected" me at first. Apart from the wind, the "causes" of acoustic opacity endorsed by these eminent men were rain, hail, snow, haze, and fog—everything, in short, that affected the optical clearness of the atmosphere. Prior to the South Foreland investigation, where, I would ask, is a "systematic enquiry" into these causes to be found? Surely, if such an enquiry has been published, it can be courteously pointed out and calmly discussed. If you can prove its existence, you will have a right to demand from me the very fullest apology and reparation for stating that "no such systematic enquiry had to my knowledge been made." Even then I could not charge myself with untruth, for my "knowledge" was, and is, arithmetically what I have affirmed it to be; but I can confess ignorance and express regret.

Give me your patience while I endeavor still further to make this matter clear. As regards the invention of instruments and their practical establishment as fog-signals, so far as my knowledge behind "the science of the United States," that I had never seen or heard one of those great steam-whistles until I met them at the South Foreland. The common "Syren" is well known to have been a familiar instrument with me, but the fog-syren I first saw and heard upon its native soil in America—not, however, as your critic puts it, but at the request, twice repeated, of Professor Henry. Further, to the best of my recollection, prior to the month of May, 1873, I had only heard one or two experimental blasts from a fog-trumpet. In such work, then, I had neither part nor lot; and, if you will permit me to say so, though it is of the utmost practical value, I should hardly label such work with the name of "science." Quite apart from those practical achievements lies the enquiry into "the causes which affect the transmission of sound through the atmosphere." And, if I except the sagacious remark of General Duane which has been so curtly brushed aside, not a scintilla of light has been cast upon these causes by any researches ever published by the Lighthouse Board of Washington.

Will you allow me to say, in passing, that Major Elliot, the able and conscientious officer whose excellent report on the lighthouses of Europe was so displeasing to the Board, did accept the invitation to Dover, and that to the present hour I feel indebted to him for the information and advice given to me at the time?

Upon my "conduct," and the knowledge which "influenced" it, your critic rings the changes of his wit. It is, after all, a very simple and straightforward matter. The "conduct" consisted in my emphatic advice to the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House not to confine themselves to

home-made apparatus, but to include American ones in their enquiry. The subsequent trial led to the abandonment of the English instruments and the adoption of others from Canada and the United States. The *Syren*, for example—which your critic erroneously says was lent "gratuitously" to me—was paid for in February, 1874, and two others are at this moment on their way from New York to England. Both by word and deed have we acknowledged our real obligations to the United States; but what we did not and could not acknowledge (for it was non-existent) was any solution of the conflicting and anomalous results obtained with these fog-signals—results so conflicting and so anomalous as to cause reflecting minds to entertain doubts as to the capacity of the observers. Apart from the friendship shown to me at the time, all that I remember of the meeting at Washington to which your critic refers is the utter perplexity of everybody present, myself included, in regard to the matter in hand. I had my guess—others had theirs; but we were quite at sea in our guesses, without a signal to guide us through the intellectual fog.

Knowing, indeed, the difficulty of the subject, when its investigation was first proposed to me by the Elder Brethren, I shrank (as Faraday had done before me) from a work of such obvious labor and such uncertain scientific promise. Doggedly, however, we attacked it, determined to go through the mechanical processes already followed by others, even if they led, as regards science, to an equally barren result. Out of the darkness at length came the dawn. We prolonged our investigations until they embraced every agent save one to which influence had been previously ascribed. The exception was snow. This, however, was directly met by observations made upon the *Mer de Glace* in the bitter winter of 1859, and which have been entirely confirmed by the later observations of General Duane. Having negated antecedent theories, we wrought our way positively to the basis of the whole question. This we found in a cloud-world, invisible to the eye of sense, but as visible and certain to the mental eye as the ordinary cloud-world of our atmosphere. The lights and shadows of these "acoustic clouds"—the action of which must, at one time or another, have been noticed by every peasant within range of a peal of bells—sufficed to account for the most astounding variations of intensity. This, I say, has been established, not only by patient and long-continued observations afloat, but by laboratory experiments as indubitable as any within the range of physical science.

And, let me add, it was neither whistles nor trumpets, nor yet the *Syren*, which pointed out the way to this solution, but experiments with guns ably served by artillerymen from Dover Castle.

I will not make any further draft upon your generosity, though, were it worth while to do so, other fallacies of fact and logic in your critic's article might be exposed. He says, or intimates, for example, that I became "adviser" to the Trinity House after my "lecturing tour in the United States in 1873." I relieved Michael Faraday of this duty in May, 1866. My friends in New York have already had to disperse other delusions regarding the "profits" of that "tour." Such statements are credible to the mean, incredible to the high-minded, and were therefore never thought worthy of refutation by me. And why should I now waste a word upon your critic's closing sentences? It will not make him noble to be told that envy is ignoble; that if ever "praise" has been adjudged to me by his countrymen, it is not because I went out of my way to seek it. It came to me unasked—an incident, not an aim—shining, as your own Emerson would put it, pleasantly because spontaneously, upon the necessary journey of my life. It was not, I can say truly, the applause of large assemblies that constituted my chief happiness in the United States, but the ever-growing proof, for the most part undemonstrative, that, without swerving from my duty, I had gained a modicum of the affection of the American people. That I prized, and that I have sought to keep free from fleck, material or intellectual. For reasons best known to himself, your critic does not relish this relation; and he will damage it if he can. I cherish the belief that he will be unsuccessful.—I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOHN TYNDALL.

LONDON, November 23, 1875.

[In cheerfully giving a place to the foregoing communication of Dr. Tyndall, we ought to premise that the controversy on which it hinges did not originate in our columns. Just as little did it originate in any "ignoble envy" on our part, for we found it flagrant in the preface of the book on 'Sound,' devoted, as that preface mainly is, to a scientific polemic with the Chairman of the Lighthouse Board in Washington. Professor Henry having stated, in the

\* It was lent to the Trinity House Corporation; and I expressly signalize the lending "as an act of international courtesy worthy of imitation."

last annual report of that Board, that its researches have been "much more extensive on this subject [fog-signalling] than those of the Trinity House," and Dr. Tyndall in his preface having expressed the opinion that the claim thus made was "inordinate," we did but emphasize the facts and considerations which, in our judgment, confirmed the claim in all its breadth.

Taking up the points of Dr. Tyndall's reply in the order he gives to them, we may say that his criticism on our construction of the passage in which a reference was made to the "ruin of authority," has been anticipated in our columns. We were in error in supposing that the claim of Dr. Tyndall to have ruined "authority" on this question was aimed at Professor Henry; but as the "odious charge" of self-assertion, imputed to Dr. Tyndall in the premises, rested upon the alleged immodesty of such self-assertion, whether directed to the disparagement of Herschel, Arago, or anybody else, it is not apparent to our minds that Dr. Tyndall has met the gravamen of the charge by showing, as he does from the date of the reception of Professor Henry's report in Europe, that he could not have referred to Henry's "solution of ocean echoes." It would have been more in order for him to show the propriety of his language in claiming to have "ruined" the "authority" of any one among his scientific predecessors, for it was on the alleged self-conceit implied in such a claim *as made by himself* that we based our "peroratory invective."

We ascribed to Dr. Tyndall a want of "scientific generosity" in ignoring the alleged fact that Professor Henry had made "systematic enquiry" before his own into the causes affecting the intensity of sound; and we further supposed from the acknowledgments contained in Dr. Tyndall's preface, that he therein *admitted* the possession of such a general knowledge under this head as should have served to modify the statement found in the body of the book, where a contradictory statement seemed to be made. This supposed "inconsistency of statement" was the ground on which we ascribed to Dr. Tyndall a want of "dexterity in literary art." In his preface, referring to the "experiments and observations" of Professor Henry, as published in the Annual Report of the United States Lighthouse Board for 1874, Dr. Tyndall wrote as follows: "I was quite aware, in a general way, that labors like those now for the first time made public, had been *conducted* in the United States, and *this knowledge* was not without influence on my conduct." As he certainly asserts that *his* scientific researches were conducted with paramount reference to the discovery of the causes which affect the intensity of sound, and as he here expressly stated that his knowledge of the "labors conducted" in the United States had not been without influence on his "conduct," it was natural, and, according to the obvious meaning of English speech, it was inevitable that we should see in this statement an over-late concession to American science, which would have appeared to better advantage, as we thought, in the "summary of existing knowledge" contained in the seventh chapter of Dr. Tyndall's book, where a conflicting statement, entirely ignoring the existence of such antecedent labors in respect to these causes, is undoubtedly made.

Dr. Tyndall now explains that his knowledge of what had been done in the United States influenced his "conduct" to the extent only of advising the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House to use American as well as British apparatus in prosecuting their enquiry. It follows, therefore, that the alleged want of "literary art" assumes, in the presence of this explanation, the proportions not of an inherent "inconsistency of statement," but of a surprising ambiguity and infelicity in this part of his preface. Moreover, as he now disavows the acquisition, while he was in the United States, of any knowledge, general or special, respecting the causes which affect the intensity of sound, we can only say that he must be held better entitled than ourselves to know what he learned or what he did not learn in this country. But we think it important to call the attention of our readers to the fact that this disclaimer does not meet the point made by us under this head, for we contested the historical accuracy of Dr. Tyndall's statement that there had been no "systematic enquiry" into the causes affecting the

intensity of sound since the year 1708. It is not enough for Dr. Tyndall to say that the researches of Prof. Henry, even as now published, do not cast a "scintilla of light" on the causes which affect the transmission of sound through the atmosphere. In order to meet our allegation, it is necessary for him to state that while he was in the United States he did not acquire a knowledge of the alleged fact that the Washington Lighthouse Board had made "systematic researches" directed to a discovery of these causes. The question between us is not one of *science*, but of *historical fact*. Did he, or did he not, learn, while in this country, that Prof. Henry had made systematic researches into these causes? If he did, the statement contained in the body of his book is inaccurate. If he did not, the statement was erroneously impeached by us. If it were a question of science, it would be proper to call, as Dr. Tyndall does, for a published paper; but as it is simply a question of history which we raised, it will suffice to receive from Dr. Tyndall the assurance that in listening to the paper read in his hearing before the Washington Philosophical Society by Prof. Henry, he did not learn from it that the paper was the result of systematic researches into the causes which affect the transmission of sound through the atmosphere.

We need only briefly advert to the minor inaccuracies which Dr. Tyndall supposes himself to find in the review. It was stated by us that "Major Elliot reached London a few days before Prof. Tyndall *began his experiments at Dover*, and was courteously invited to be present, but for want of time was compelled to forego the privilege." What privilege? The privilege of being present at the "experiments," we need not say. We merely cited the language of Major Elliot himself, whose report of the matter is as follows: "The limited time at my disposal did not allow me the pleasure of accepting an invitation to join them [the experimenters-], and I had only an opportunity of observing the machines *them* *eyes* at the experimental station at South Foreland." The verbal correction that the Syren was lent by the Washington Lighthouse Board to the Trinity House Corporation, and *not* to Dr. Tyndall, is frankly accepted by us on his own assurance. As to the date of his appointment as the scientific adviser of the Trinity House, while we were aware that he held this office at the time when he was in the United States, we were not informed as to his antecedent labors in connection with it.

In conclusion, we beg leave to add that we had not the slightest wish to detract from Dr. Tyndall's repute in the United States, but simply desired to prevent the labors and investigations of American science from being relegated by him to the state of historical non-entity, as he seemed to us to attempt to do, when, in his book on Sound, he denied equally the existence and the value of any researches in this country, directed to a discovery of the causes affecting this intensity of sound, anterior to his own investigations.—ED. NATION.]

## Notes.

THE United States Geological Survey of the Territories (Hayden's) has just issued Vol. II of the 4th series of Reports—an extended and elaborate "Memoir on the Vertebrate Fauna of the Cretaceous Formations of the West," by E. D. Cope, the eminent paleontologist. The work is illustrated with numerous lithographic plates, and at once takes an acknowledged place as the most complete exposition of the subject as at present understood.—The "Bulletin of the National Museum," published by the Department of the Interior under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution, is a new medium of communication with the scientific public, designed to make known results of study of the material contained in the collection at Washington. The papers appear independently of each other, separately titled and paged, but will subsequently be gathered into volumes of convenient size, upon the plan of the well-known "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections." Nos. 1 and 2 have appeared, the first being Professor Cope's Check-list of North American Reptilia and Batrachia; the second the Report of Dr. J. H. Kidder (edited by Dr. Coues) on the ornithological collections made by him at Kerguelen Island while he was attached to the

American Transit-of-Venus Expedition. Other papers will soon follow. —Volume V. of 'Reports of the Explorations West of the 100th Meridian' (Wheeler's), being the volume on general zoölogy prepared by Dr. H. C. Yarrow, with the co-operation of several well-known specialists, is all in type, and will appear as soon as the work on the illustrations is completed—and this, we understand, is nearly finished. The volume will make about 800 quarto pages, illustrated with 45 chromo-lithographs. —Additional numbers of Dr. Hayden's 'Bulletins' have just appeared, containing the usual variety of articles from different hands. The former "series" of this publication consisted of unconnected pamphlets, separately titled and paged; the numbers of the current "second series," though issued separately (sewed), are continuously paged, with the design that the greater part of the edition shall be made up into a yearly volume. The publication thus becomes a regular serial, though the numbers first appeared irregularly—a practical advantage over the former plan which bibliographers and all those who have occasion to quote the periodical will appreciate. —Two numbers of the *Scientific Monthly*, a publication recently begun at Toledo, O., have reached us. The editorial responsibility seems to be personal, though the publication may have some connection with a scientific association existing in that city. Some of the articles are from known sources, and are fairly good, but the general appearance of the magazine is undeniably bad, and there is, we suppose, little prospect of success in this case. —We some time ago expressed our opinion that Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge's delightful children's story, called 'Hans Brinker; or, The Silver Skates,' deserved an entirely new dress, with illustrations made in Holland instead of in America. The publishers (Scribner, Armstrong & Co.) have just issued an edition in accordance with this suggestion, and we hope it is not too late in the season to announce the fact. The pictures are admirable, and the whole volume, in appearance and contents, need not fear comparison with any juvenile publication of the year, or of many years. —We must also give a word of praise to the translation of Dr. L. Sauveur's 'Chats with the Little Ones' (Estes & Lauriat), which parents will find to be a very high order of object-lessons. —The Water-Color Society will open its ninth annual exhibition in this city January 31, and close February 26. Pictures will be received from the 14th to the 19th of January.

—The second 'Reference Catalogue of Current Literature' (London: Joseph Whitaker) and the third 'Publishers' Trade-list Annual' (New York: F. Leypoldt) reach us together. The English volume is noticeably slenderer than its bulky predecessor; and with some surprise we look in vain for the catalogues of such houses as Blackwood, Murray, Routledge, and Williams & Norgate. In fact, there are forty fewer contributors than last year, and Mr. Whitaker announces that his next edition will not appear till 1877. He calls attention, however, to the improved character of the index, which is much fuller than last year's, and includes no fewer than 17,000 works or collections. It is this feature which for the first time distinguishes the 'Trade-list Annual,' following the example of the 'Reference Catalogue,' just as the latter work was called into being by the former. Mr. Leypoldt's disparaging estimate of his own index must not be taken too literally, but as indicating his consciousness of how far it falls short of ideal bibliography. His subscribers will not, we apprehend, have many reproaches to make him, even judged by this standard; but they may reasonably reproach themselves for the want of uniformity and punctuality in getting out their catalogues, which has caused him so much needless trouble and annoyance. Uniformity will, we do not doubt, be attained in time, but punctuality may prove something beyond control. In spite of all obstacles, Mr. Leypoldt reports a gain of four firms over the total representation of last year. Besides the general index, which, as compared with Mr. Whitaker's, appears to be at least one-half fuller, he gives educational, law, and medical indexes, and an index of specialties in the book and stationery trade. Both these volumes are achievements of incontestable value, and must do much to improve the trade, and to aid book-buyers directly and indirectly. They ought to be accessible in every public library and in the leading bookstores of the country.

—A few books in holiday attire still lie upon our table, and will receive here such brief notice as we can give them. 'The Sea' and 'The Insect' of Jules Michelet (New York: T. Nelson & Sons) belong in that curious and more or less fantastic series of scientific excursions in which the French historian found recreation from pursuits for which he was better fitted. Of all of them it may be said what he himself has avowed of 'The Insect': "It has sprung wholly from the heart. Nothing has been given up to the intellect, nothing to systems." They are, therefore, works which the student will and must pass by, but the general reader need not despise the instruction they contain. The illustrations by Giacomelli greatly embellish

'The Insect'; those in 'The Sea' are much less numerous, and would hardly be missed. 'Laurel Leaves,' a companion or sequel to the 'Lotos Leaves' of last year published by the same firm (Boston: Wm. F. Gill & Co.), is made up of contributions in prose and verse by writers, mostly American, of every degree of eminence. We have not observed that in any instance their laurels will be the greener on account of their performances in this volume, and we therefore cannot predict for the work an enduring reputation. The illustrations are also of mixed origin and merit. The book is handsomely printed and tastefully bound. 'Silhouettes and Songs Illustrative of the Months' (Boston: Lockwood, Brooks & Co.) holds a doubtful middle place between juvenile and adult literature. The designs are by Helen Maria Hinds, a young lady of fourteen, and do her credit, albeit the art is not so difficult as is apt to be supposed. They are all concerned with the representation of children, and some of the verses which accompany them are plainly nursery rhymes, and most of them relate or are addressed to children, though that does not make them proper reading for children. The selections have been made by the Rev. Edward E. Hale. The admirers of Mr. Will Carleton and Mr. Benjamin F. Taylor will be gratified by the illustrated editions of the former's 'Farm Legends' (Harpers) and the latter's 'Songs of Yesterday' (Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.) As popular Western poets these authors may challenge a degree of attention which their productions would certainly not receive on their merits.

—To the foregoing we may add mention of two other works suitable for gift-books, viz., Mr. Allibone's 'Prose Quotations, from Socrates to Macaulay' (Lippincott), and Mr. Edwin Abbott's 'Concordance to the [original Poetical] Works of Alexander Pope' (Appletons). The 'Prose Quotations' we find rather less dreary and more useful than the same compiler's 'Poetical Quotations'; and its 8,810 readings from 544 authors on 571 subjects will be well received by a large class, and will instruct at least in the proportion that they interest. The work is of a kind of which there need be no end, being put together without any but a moral order, and according to the compiler's fancy (say) for Burke and Macaulay over Bentham and Mill, yet including the greatest names in English literature. The topics are mainly abstractions like Admiration, Cheerfulness, Knavery, Public Spirit, Zeal, etc.; but there is a liberal admixture of concretes like Coins, East India Company, Microscope, Spaniards, Whigs, etc. A few countries, viz., America, England, France, Greece, and Italy, and some two score of eminent personages from Homer to Warren Hastings, furnishing headings for Mr. Allibone. These last illustrate more curiously than any other feature the accidental character of the 'Quotations.' A good concordance to the works of a great writer is always and under all circumstances praiseworthy, and a very hearty welcome can therefore be given to Mr. Abbott's concordance to Pope. It fills 665 closely but clearly printed pages, and is preceded by a brief but helpful introduction from the pen of Dr. Edwin A. Abbott, who discourses of Pope's style, and points out peculiarities in his use of words and idioms, and in his metre. Speaking of Pope's English as being eminently modern, he says: "We may glance down page after page of this concordance without finding a line or phrase that might not have been written in the nineteenth century." He used few archaisms, and his grammar generally hardly calls for remark. To Pope's apparent fondness for the sound of *s* Mr. Abbott attributes the fact that there are nearly twice as many entries under that letter as under any other. He never used *rang* or *sang*, but *rung* or *sung*, etc.; neither *also* nor *towards* will be found in the Concordance. Two pages are given to examples of irregular or unusual rhymes; but they are surprisingly few.

—Our remarks on the autopsy performed on the late Vice-President have elicited some criticism from our medical readers. A Boston physician writes: "You say 'the doctors, without the slightest necessity, for they knew he died of apoplexy,' etc. I think we do not yet know what Wilson died of. It is stated in the autopsy made by Dr. Lamb, of the Surgeon-General's Office, that there was no *extravasation* in the brain, but 'the spinal canal contained a large quantity of dark fluid-blood.' In view of the hasty nature of the examination, I feel uncertain as to the source of this blood, nor do I feel sure that its presence would be necessarily fatal, nor that the symptoms attending the death were consistent with the supposition that this blood caused his death. Microscopical examination will probably assist our diagnosis; but as yet I do not see that the assumption of 'nervous apoplexy dependent probably on cerebral anemia' is the correct one either. The last number of the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* contains a Washington letter upon the subject."

—The accusation of plagiarism may be met in two ways; either a plea of unconscious coincidence can be entered, or the theft can be boldly acknowledged and justification attempted by means of alleged improve-

ments. In the latter case the plagiarist maintains that he did not steal, he conquered—to use the words applied to Ben Jonson by an early critic and to the elder Dumas by himself. He takes shelter under the fact that Shakspeare did not invent his plots, and under the fiction that Molière once replied to a similar accusation: “Je prends mon bien où je le trouve.” As M. Eugène Despois has proved the impossibility of Molière ever having breakfasted with Louis XIV., so M. Edouard Fournier, in his entertaining volume upon “L’Esprit dans l’Histoire,” has shown the falsehood of this other *mot* by tracing Molière’s exact words. The Gascon Cyrano, who was privy to many of Molière’s first attempts at dramatic composition, profited by the poet’s long professional absences in the provinces to introduce into his own comedy, “Le Pédant loué,” one of the scenes which he had gleaned from Molière. When the latter at last returned to Paris in the full plenitude of his powers, he disdained reclamation. But later, as his mind became fatigued, and he retouched for Parisian audiences the earlier farces which had delighted the provincials, he unhesitatingly made use of the scene which Cyrano had stolen from him years before, saying, “Je reprends mon bien où je le trouve.” This is the version given by Grimarest, the only original recorder of the phrase which has since been perverted. Instead of audaciously asserting a right to take his material wherever he found it, Molière only declared the right to take back his own. A popular error dies hard; and it is perhaps useless to hope that petty plagiarists will ever refrain from citing the greatest of French dramatists as having set them a bad example.

—J. W. F. writes us from Tours, France, under date of Nov. 30:

“The librarian of the library of Tours, Mr. A. Dorange, has made, with much expenditure of labor and of time, a catalogue of the manuscripts preserved in it—a collection which is deservedly famous. This has been published in a handsome volume of 580 pages quarto, beautifully printed on fine paper, at the expense of the city of Tours. A small edition only has been issued (two hundred copies, I believe), intended principally as presents to various libraries of France and to foreign governments, with a few for sale to such as may require them. I am assured that a copy will be presented to our Government for the Congressional Library.

“The great value and interest of the manuscripts of the library of Tours are well known. It possesses the handsomest manuscript on parchment known in Europe—that of the Evangelists of the eighth century, written in letters of gold—and numerous others of the highest value. The catalogue contains mention of 2,000 manuscripts, of which more than 200 have miniatures. It is not a merely dry list, but in all cases where there is sufficient inducement a full description, with citations of the most important portions of the subjects, is given. The variety and richness of the collection are explained by the number and celebrity of the religious establishments of Touraine, of whose manuscripts the library has become the heir and guardian. Thus the old libraries of the Cathedral, of the Abbey of St. Martin, and of that of Marmontier have contributed the remains of their treasures.

“The library of the Cathedral had its origin in the fifth century, when the sixth Bishop of Tours bequeathed his library to the Chapter of the Cathedral, ‘except the Evangelists, which Hilaire, Bishop of Poitiers, had written with his own hand.’ Of 460 manuscripts catalogued in 1706, the library of Tours possesses 309. The library of the Abbey of St. Martin of Tours was founded by the celebrated Alcuin, who was appointed by Charlemagne to revise the sacred texts, and who established about 796, in the Monastery of St. Martin, *ateliers* of copyists, from which issued, amongst others, the beautiful Evangelists in golden letters above referred to. In 1730 an inventory of the manuscripts of the collegiate of St. Martin was published. It contained 272 articles, of which this library now possesses 140. The library of the Abbey of Marmontier dates from the time of St. Martin himself. One of the principal occupations of its monks was to copy manuscripts. A catalogue of the manuscripts of that abbey, made in 1754, names 360, of which the library of Tours contains 263, many of them very precious. Numbers of them are among the oldest French manuscripts. Several are the most ancient monuments of French literature. In addition to the foregoing, there were twenty-five or more religious institutions which have contributed to this collection most valuable MSS.

“Many of these manuscripts are bound in rare bindings, and several bear arms of noble houses—of Anne de Bretagne, Diane de Poitiers, Henry III.—all of which are described in the catalogue. A list of a few of the most precious of these manuscripts may not be uninteresting. These are: The Evangelists, in gold letters and rare binding, of the eighth century; The Bible, called that of Charles the Bald, of the ninth century; *Sacramentaire* of Pope Gregory the Great, of the tenth century; Life of St. Martin, by Sulpicius Severus, of the eleventh century; Missal, containing wonderful miniatures, of the twelfth century; Psalter, with miniatures, rare binding, of the thirteenth century; Missal, for use in the English Church, of the fourteenth century; Livre d’heures of Anne de Bretagne, of the fifteenth century; another, containing beautiful miniatures, of the fifteenth century; Titus Livius, with two great miniatures, one of the battle of Cannes, and ornamented, by order of Louis XI., by the best artists of the fifteenth century. There is a Latin dictionary of the ninth century, a prosody of the tenth, a collection of Greek historians brought from Cyprus, of the eleventh, a Cicero, Terence, and Ovid, of the twelfth. There is no space to mention more of these treasures.

“Mr. Dorange commenced this catalogue more than ten years ago, and has devoted all his leisure to the completion of it. Some idea of the labor

may be formed when it is stated that he had to decipher and read all these manuscripts in order that he might give a proper description of them, and such extracts as he deemed most interesting. Those of your readers interested in such matters cannot fail to be gratified by the mention of this great work. It is the most carefully compiled catalogue of manuscripts which exists, and is entirely worthy of its admirable and interesting subjects.”

—A fresh light has just been thrown upon one of the most hideous epochs of modern history by Professor Villari’s publication of the despatches of Antonio Giustinian, who was the ambassador of Venice in Rome from 1502 to 1505. These papers were among the valuables carried to Vienna by the Austrians when they withdrew from Italy; and one of the benefits arising from the restitution recently made is the appearance of Villari’s volumes. They cover the last sixteen months of the pontificate of Alexander VI. and the commencement of that of Julius II., their main interest naturally centring in the sayings and doings of the Borgias while their ambitious schemes were ripening to fruition, to be cut short by the sudden death of the father. It would not be easy to convey a more vivid impression of the scandals of the time than is afforded by the quiet jottings of the Venetian diplomat, recording how the Holy Father amused himself with comedies and masquerades and the sports of the Carnival of 1503, when, his son having captured and slaughtered the Orsini at Sinigaglia, he was completing the task by executing and poisoning the members and adherents of the family in Rome, sacking their palaces, and carrying off the booty to the Vatican. No time, apparently, was lost in this latter portion of the work. When the Cardinal of St. Angelo died, as was asserted of poison, on the night of April 10-11, Giustinian, visiting the Pope on the 11th, was carried by him into a room where his creatures were already busily engaged in counting the spoils of the victim; and Borgia pathetically complained that he was reported to have secured at least 80,000 to 100,000 ducats by the operation, but that there was only a paltry 23,832, to confirm which he called upon those engaged in the work to verify his statement. It is some satisfaction to know that when, four months after this, the monster died, he made “*el più brutto, mostruoso et orrendo corpo di morte che vedesse mai*,” and that for very shame his corpse could not be openly shown to the people in the funeral ceremonies. The faculty of abhorrence seemed to have been exhausted by the revelations of Burchard and the suggestiveness of Machiavelli; but Giustinian has shown us the possibility of even deeper degradation in an infallible Vicegerent of Christ.

#### THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.\*

CHAPLAIN VAN HORNE’S “History of the Army of the Cumberland” is one of the most important contributions to the story of the war of the rebellion which has yet appeared. It professes to be based upon materials mainly collected and supplied by General George H. Thomas himself, including his military journal, which is said to give accurate mention of the operations of each day and brief notes of the more important facts and events. A glance at the array of reports, despatches, orders, and letters referred to as authorities and quoted, shows that a long-continued and methodical collection of material had been made by Gen. Thomas or some one under his eye, and that the author has thus been furnished with exceptional facilities for his work. The maps, in number, accuracy, and finish, are superior to those of any similar book upon the late war, and were prepared by the Superintendent of the Topographical Engineers-Office of the Department of the Cumberland, who had supervision of the official surveys of the battle-fields and lines of works upon a large part of the theatre of war in which took place the operations narrated in the history. No pains have been spared to make the work as nearly as possible exhaustive in its special province, and when we add to this that it is brought out by the publishers in thoroughly good style, it is clear that it must become the principal authority with all the members of the organization known as the Army of the Cumberland for its campaigns, marches, and engagements. Scarce a skirmish or a movement of a detachment, however small, is omitted; the composition of the command, its corps, divisions, brigades, and regiments, are all given as they were originally made and from time to time changed, and a full appendix contains much valuable matter, including an illustrated résumé of the block-house system by which the railway bridges were protected on Sherman’s long line of communications, and an extended list of the officers of all grades who were killed in battle or died of wounds. The book would therefore be a useful compilation of historical material, apart from the merits of the narrative.

\* “History of the Army of the Cumberland—its Organization, Campaigns, and Battles. By Thomas B. Van Horne, U.S.A. Illustrated with Campaign and Battle Maps compiled by Edward Ruger.” Two volumes and atlas. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co. 1875.

The author's part of the work is creditable to him. He has devoted to his task the labor necessary to get a clear view of the movements and combinations of the troops whose story he is telling, and generally succeeds well in carrying his reader along with him, even in the intricacies of tactical movements of battles like Stone River and Chickamauga. His style is occasionally marred by turgid passages of attempted fine writing, but these blemishes are not frequent enough to detract much from the pleasure of reading the book. An introductory chapter gives the history of the political struggle in Kentucky which decided that that State should adhere to the Union, and of the events which soon put an end to the absurd attempt at neutrality which Governor Magoffin at first proclaimed. Then followed the assignment of Gen. Robert Anderson to the "Department of Kentucky," the recruiting of loyal Kentucky regiments, the invasion of the State by the Confederate forces, and the successive appointments of Generals Sherman and Buell to the command of the Department.

It was under Buell's command that the organization afterwards known as the Army of the Cumberland took permanent shape, and his rigid ideas of system and discipline were soon impressed upon it, and made it from an early day one of the most compact and well-drilled bodies of troops in the Union army. General Thomas's connection with it dated almost from the very beginning, and his victory at Mill Spring was the most important of its early successes. Of course, the organization could not remain unchanged through all the campaigns of the war, but a sufficiently large proportion of its regiments remained connected with it to give fair justification to its historian for treating it as a unit and narrating the campaigns of all its parts, even when they were far separated from the Department and its commander, as in the case of the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps, which made the march to the sea with Sherman. During that period General Thomas's actual command consisted of only the Fourth Corps of his original Cumberland Army, reinforced by the Twenty-third of the Army of the Ohio under Gen. Schofield, and the Sixteenth of the Army of the Tennessee under Gen. A. J. Smith, together with new troops and detachments of all sorts that were sent to his assistance. Yet so strong is the *esprit de corps* of the original organization that its historian attempts to follow the fortunes of its divisions, so widely scattered, and to give their history in detail. It is this feature of the plan of the book which makes it impossible that it should be in any sense a complete history, though it doubtless adds to its interest for those who regarded themselves as part of the Cumberland Army. So long as such a body of troops has a separate military work to do, its story may be written in a manner to make it a satisfactory integral part of the larger history of the war. But when the command was divided, and parts served in different campaigns, or when it became a component part of a larger army, as when it was the centre of Sherman's grand army, the attempt to write its history becomes most difficult, if not altogether impracticable. A unity is assumed when no unity in fact exists, and the best that can be made of it is to furnish material for a broader history, to be written from a standpoint which will enable the historian to group all the parts in fair proportion, and to free the picture from the color which a narrower view is sure to have.

The narrative may therefore be properly divided into two parts: the first covering the period in which the Army of the Cumberland was really a separate army engaged in independent campaigns, as during the time it was commanded by Buell and Rosecrans; the second period embracing the events in which it had only a share with the Armies of the Tennessee and Ohio. As to the first of these parts, the work of the author may be said to be complete, and his narrative to embody nearly all that any reader of history will need to know of the events described. The collection and collation of facts are painstaking and full, and the only criticism we are tempted to make is that a proper proportion is not maintained between great and little things. A trifling skirmish sometimes figures as a desperate engagement, and has a prominence which interferes with the grouping and composition of the work as a whole. As to the second part of the narrative in the classification above made, every real student of history will need to be constantly on his guard against the essentially misleading nature of a story in which the writer systematically gives overshadowing prominence to the part played by a fraction of an army, yet does not make his account the mere report of one integral part like a division or a corps. In trying to give enough of all that occurred to convey a tolerably clear view of a campaign, and yet to describe fully only what the portion known as the Army of the Cumberland did, the writer almost necessarily expands the excusable "*quorum magna pars fui*" of the Cumberland Army into an apparent claim to all the glory of every battle.

The most striking instance of this is in the account of the battle of Franklin, where the Confederate Army under General Hood was terribly repulsed by the National Army under General Schofield, the desperate

nature of the contest being shown by the fact that in it Hood lost thirteen general officers killed and wounded. Yet the reader who should know that engagement only by Chaplain Van Horne's history would necessarily doubt whether the battle were anything more than an affair in which all the fighting on the Union side was done by one gallant brigade of the Army of the Cumberland. Of course, the reason assigned for this would be that the other troops belonged to the Army of the Ohio, and it is only the history of the Cumberland Army that is being written. In this case, however, the silence is so complete, and the extracts from official reports quoted as authority are so thoroughly culled of every allusion to the other forces, that the effect is altogether that of a garbled story, whatever be the reason or the motive.

Mr. Van Horne does not profess to give us much general criticism of campaigns, wisely limiting himself, in the main, to the narration of events as they passed. In the nature of the case, his work is strongly eulogistic. This spirit marks his treatment of the deposed as well as the successful leaders of the army. Buell and Rosecrans are alike right in all the controversies between them and the authorities at Washington. The former is justified in his retreat before Bragg, and the latter is said to have been forced to make the advance to Chattanooga with inadequate means and without real necessity. The standpoint is always that of one proud of the organization to which he belonged, and unwilling to see any but the side most flattering to it and to the leaders who were identified with its history. This could not well be otherwise, and we note it, not to condemn it, but to draw the line sharply between historical works of this class and the true history, in which the judicially impartial but equally well-informed historian shall take the larger view of events, and judge generals and armies from a standpoint which enables him to combine reasons of state with those of military necessity, and fully comprehend the relation of each army to the great common purpose.

*Prose Miscellanies from Heinrich Heine.* Translated by S. L. Fleishman. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1876.)—In a small volume of three hundred pages, Mr. Fleishman has collected a number of interesting extracts from Heine's writings, which in no way cover the ground already occupied by other prose translators of that author, and only supplement the work that has been already done by them. The '*Reisebilder*,' translated by Mr. C. G. Leland, gives but one side of Heine's complex character, while Mr. Stern's '*Scintillations from the Prose Works of Heine*,' containing the '*Florentine Nights*' and a number of examples of his wit taken at random from his writings, left comparatively untouched much of his more serious work. As Mr. Fleishman says in his Preface, "no writer better bears being quoted in brief, witty excerpts; yet none loses more by such treatment," and certainly no one comprehends all the charm and value of Heine's prose who only knows the extracted witticisms. In saying this we by no means condemn Mr. Stern's excellent volume, for it shows completely one of Heine's most fascinating sides—his boundless wit; but the editor of the volume before us to-day has added to the value of his book by giving us a chance to observe Heine's wisdom, which, he it said, was in no way devoid of wit.

The most important selections that the book contains are the condensed translations of the '*De l'Allemagne*,' which treats of the history of religion and philosophy in Germany, and the admirable account of the Romantic School. Condensation was perhaps unavoidable, but we cannot help regretting that it had to be carried so far. The '*Memoirs of Herr von Schnabelewopski*' might well have been omitted without harm to the book; its facetiousness is rather jarring than agreeable in English, and in its place we might have had a fuller translation of the Romantic School. It is a late day to call attention to the admirable way in which Heine wrote that chapter of literary history. Many long-winded German commentators and collectors of mouldy facts have toiled over the same ground, nearly buried beneath their learning, without half the insight of Heine, without half of his brilliant gift of exposition. Compare, for instance, Hayne's massive volume with these few chapters, and it is easy to see on which side the advantage lies—certainly not with the heaviest battalions.

Many of the '*Scintillations*' are to be found in Mr. Fleishman's volume, but generally in their proper connection with other remarks; but even this last translator's more generous treatment does not satisfy us. Most readers would prefer to make their own condensations, and the asterisks which mark the frequent gaps are pretty sure to arouse the keenest curiosity about what has been omitted. Of Heine it is easier to give too little than too much. In addition to what we have already mentioned, the book contains his article on the pictures exhibited in Paris in 1831, that on the Suanin School, the Gods in Exile, and, in abbreviated form, his Confessions. This

selection, it will be seen, gives the reader opportunity to judge of Heine's versatility, and does not fall into the error of showing merely his brilliancy.

The introductory biographical sketch, based of course on Strodttmann's 'Life of Heine,' is of value. The critical part is interesting, but it fails, in our opinion, to give a complete explanation of the indifference towards him which is so common among the Germans. This cannot be ascribed wholly to his lack of moral character or to the frequent impropriety of his writings. These, doubtless, have had some influence; but the Germans are not more prudish than the rest of the world, and the English, French, and Americans have admired Heine warmly in spite of his obvious faults. His bitter attacks on Germany have probably had more to do with the coolness of their feeling towards him. He had a keen eye for the follies of his native country; he had certainly suffered severely from them, and he had a sharp tongue with which to rail at them. In this respect, his position is like that of Byron—neither is so much admired at home as abroad, and for the same reason: each of them attacked violently the ways of thought of his native land. Byron denounced England as the home of cant, and Heine was for ever ridiculing the political impotence of Germany and the tendencies of its writers.

Mr. Fleishman's translation is for the most part good. Objection must be made, however, to the use of such a word as *everly*, which occurs twice—namely, on pp. 68 and 267. In conclusion, it may be worth while to speak of the amount of attention Heine has received in this country. Besides the German edition of his works, in seven volumes, published by Schäfer & Koradi, of Philadelphia, which had reached its fifth edition in 1867, there are the translations we have mentioned. Moreover, it may not be generally known that the first translations of Heine into English appeared in this country, in a newspaper published in Newburyport, Mass. This was as long ago as 1830.

*Fragments of a Samaritan Targum.* Edited from a Bodleian MS, with an Introduction containing a Sketch of Samaritan History, Dogma, and Literature, by John W. Nutt, M.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, etc. (London: Trübner & Co.)—The existence of Samaritans at the present day deserves to be counted among the curiosities of history. A scanty remnant—barely more than one hundred souls—they still inhabit the ancient town of Shechem (now Nablûs), which was first settled by their ancestors more than two thousand years ago. They have outlived the persecutions of Jews, pagans, Christians, and Mohammedans. They continue to observe many of the ordinances of Moses's law which have fallen into disuse elsewhere. And the certainty of their approaching extinction lends an additional interest to a people whose early fortunes form a conspicuous link in the chain of Old-Testament history, and whose name has become a proverb through the parable of Jesus. Dr. Petermann, in his 'Reisen im Orient,' gives an interesting account of their rites and usages. The law of Leviticus xii., ordaining the separation of women after childbirth for thirty-three or sixty-six days, is still rigidly enforced. Twice in the year, sixty days before Passover, and sixty before Tabernacles, the priest receives the Terumah or heave-offering, while year by year the Paschal lamb continues to be sacrificed on Mount Gerizim. Petermann, observing that their women were generally without ear-rings, was informed that the use of these ornaments had been prohibited, because employed by Aaron in the fabrication of the golden calf. To Gerizim, their sacred hill, the chief events of the Biblical narrative, at least in its earlier parts, are referred. On or about it was the seat of Paradise, here Adam built his first altar, here the ark rested, here Abraham attempted the sacrifice of his son. Nor has it lost its importance in their eyes even at the present day. In 1858 they expected a great revolution to occur on earth, when dynasties were to be overthrown, and new empires to rise. Then, after an interval of ten years, the ruling sovereigns would assemble the wisest men of the earth in order to determine the true faith. Among these the Ta'eb (the Messiah of the Samaritans) would appear, convince them of his God-given mission, and lead the nations back to Gerizim. The vessels of the Temple would then be restored, the manna discovered, etc.

The attempt of the Samaritans to monopolize the consecrated spots of the religious past was dictated by jealousy of the Jews. Themselves the successors and, to some extent at least, the heirs of the lost Ten Tribes, they claimed to be the true Israel, the only faithful guardians of the Law of God, which they asserted had been falsified in Judea. They never recognized the Prophets and Hagiographa as canonical books. The Pentateuch, however, they have always held in great veneration. Indeed, their reverence for the books of Moses was so great as to extend even to the character in which they were written. When the more archaic Hebrew charac-

ter was abandoned among the Jews, it was preserved in the scrolls of the Samaritans, and, being thus transmitted to our own day, has served to interest scholars in their literature. But the pious zeal with which the Samaritans guarded the written form did not ensure them against forgetting its meaning. The language of the Law soon ceased to be understood among the vulgar, and it was found necessary to translate it into the Samaritan dialect.

Probably in the third century A.D., at or about the same time that the Chaldaic version (Targum) of Onkelos was fixed within Jewish circles, the Samaritan Targum was written down. To Mr. Nutt we are now indebted for the publication of a fragment of this Targum, from a MS. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, older than either the Barberini or Vatican MS. at Rome. It embraces the end of Leviticus from chap. xxv. 26, and the Book of Numbers, with considerable breaks in various places. "It is to this Targum," says Mr. Nutt, "that recourse must principally be had for settling the forms of the Samaritan language. . . . It is of considerable importance, therefore, that we should possess a thoroughly critical edition of the text, and it is as a contribution to this end that the present fragment has been edited." 152 pages of the book are devoted to an introduction on the history, doctrines, and literature of the Samaritans. In the second part, the connection shown to subsist between Samaritans, Sadducees, and Karaites will be found of special interest. An account of the Hebrew-Samaritan Pentateuch, the Targum, the Samaritan-Greek version, the Arabic version of Abu Said, the Samaritan Chronicles, etc., is given in the third part. The whole essay is a complete and careful reproduction of the results of Samaritan research, which are presented with singular clearness and accuracy. Perhaps the statement on p. 19, concerning the lighting of sham beacon-fires by the Samaritans, should be received with some caution. On comparing the source from which this statement is drawn with collateral passages of the Talmud, it appears to us more likely that the term "Cuthim" is employed in the instance referred to as a disguise, and that the sectaries referred to are in reality the early Christians.

The value of the volume is enhanced by two appendices. The former contains an account of the Firkovitch collection of Samaritan MSS. at St. Petersburg by Dr. Harkavy. The enthusiasm with which these treasures are announced would be more cordially appreciated if grave suspicions had not lately fallen on the genuineness of some of Firkovitch's discoveries. The second appendix embodies an English rendering of the 'Tract on the Samaritans.' We are glad to notice that the Introduction to the Targum is also to be sold separately. The interest of the latter appeals solely to the narrow circle of Semitic scholars. The former may be read with profit by all who are interested in the phenomena of religious history.

*Lectures on Dendrology.* [Vorlesungen über Dendrologie. Gehalten zu Berlin im Winterhalbjahr 1874-75, von Karl Koch, Med. et Phil. Dr., Professor der Botanik an der Friedrich-Wilhelm-Universität zu Berlin.] (New York: L. W. Schmidt. 1875.)—This is an unfinished course of lectures given last winter in Berlin by Professor Koch, of the University. It is by no means so restricted in its range as the common definition of dendrology might indicate; it comprises much more than the natural history of woody plants. The course is divided into three parts. The first gives a popular history of the garden and of landscape gardening; the second deals with the structure and life of trees, and the relations of trees to hygiene and climate; the third with a single family of woody plants, the *Coniferae*. It will be seen that the claim made by Professor Koch, that dendrology is not a narrow and one-sided science, is well supported by the comprehensiveness of the present treatise. The subject is presented in a very interesting manner. Its technical character is relieved throughout by the introduction of bits of curious information, which have evidently been subjected to most careful scrutiny. A few of these may be new to many of our readers, and we therefore transfer them in a condensed form.

Only a small proportion of the hardy shrubs and trees growing in the open air in Germany are indigenous there; North America has contributed a far larger number; then follow successively Siberia, the Caucasus, Southern Europe, and the Orient. In a few favored localities in the South Rhine there are now some shrubs from the Terraces of Mexico, and even Peru and Chili. Of the sacred trees the author has much to say. He states that the oldest European nations revered the oak; the Germans the linden, making it the gathering-place of their sacred tribunals. It was not until the middle of the last century that the oak was adopted as the symbol of German power. The Northern people regarded the birch as sacred, but in the South of Russia its place was taken by the pear-tree. In the Himalaya

the cypress (*Cupressus rel. glabra*), the juniper (*Juniperus religiosa*), and the cedar (*cedrus libani*) surround the temples. South of these mountains, the banyan (*Ficus religiosa*) supersedes the conifers just named. The ancient inhabitants of Egypt and Nubia revered the sycamore; by the Christians now living in those countries it is known as the tree of the Madonna. The sacred tree of South Africa is the gigantic Baobab (*Adansonia digitata*); in Teneriffe, a dragon-tree was regarded as sacred.

Long before the time of laying out walled gardens and cultivating in them plants for their flowers, the rose appears to have been widely planted. Each of the four great Asiatic groups possessed a rose of its own and carried it throughout its wanderings, until, finally, all four became the common property of the four peoples. The great Indo-Germanic cherished the Hundred-leaved rose (*Rosa Gallica*), but later, among the Germans, *Rosa canina* played an important rôle. The sacred rose of the Semitic, or Arabic, people was the Damascus, and perhaps the musk-rose; the Turkish-Mongolian division cultivated the yellow rose (*R. lutea*); Eastern Asia, probably China and Japan, is the native land of the so-called Indian, or tea-rose. In very early times it was carried to the East Indies; and as it was found there first by Europeans, it has received the erroneous common name of Indian rose. The author says that the roses which bloom many times in the year (the Remontant roses) are the product of comparatively recent horticultural art.

The employment of "weeping trees"—those with pendant branches—near burial-places is with us of recent origin. We have received the custom from China, where, from early times, a weeping cypress has been cultivated. Two weeping willows also are extensively planted there, not only at graves but in pleasure-gardens and parks. One of these was early introduced into Europe by way of the Orient, and it was assumed by Linnaeus to be the tree under which the Jews, in their Babylonish captivity, sang their songs of sorrow, and he gave it therefore the erroneous name, *Salix Babylonica*, which it has since held.

Professor Koch's history of the garden among the ancients, and his account of the changes through which the garden has passed in its development, are full of interest. He finds in the style of gardening an expression of the national character, and he traces the modifications of the style with great skill. He is much perplexed, however, by the present character of Chinese pleasure-gardens. They resemble the free, wide parks which form such an attractive feature in England, and the Celestials have possessed such gardens for centuries. It is difficult, our author thinks, to explain this anomaly of free parks in an unprogressive and pedantic nation like the Chinese, except on the hypothesis that this people must have had a period of free thought at some time far back in their history. In Japan great parks appear to be wanting, and their gardens differ in other points from those of China. Horticulture is thought to be much older among Japanese than the Chinese, and to have exercised an important influence upon the latter. We do not find, however, that Professor Koch makes this clear.

The gardens of the Greeks and Romans, those of the Italians of the middle ages and of the present day, French and Dutch gardens, are treated of in much detail and in a philosophical manner. We must express a hearty wish to have this course of lectures, together with those promised for the present winter, soon given to us in an English translation.

\* \* Publishers will confer a favor by placing on the wrapper the price of their books on the wrapper.

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Authors.—Titles.	Publishers.—Prices.
Centennial Orations, 1874-75, swd. ....	(Boston) 1 00
Castelar (E.), Lord Byron and Other Sketches .....	Harper & Bros. 2 00
Dabney (Rev. R. L.), Sensualistic Philosophy .....	(A. D. F. Randolph & Co.) 3 00
Dodge (Mary M.), Hans Brinker; or, The Silver Skates .....	(Scribner, Armstrong & Co.) 1 00
Daily Prayer and Praise .....	(American Unitarian Association) 1 00
Doubleday (A.), Reminiscences of Forts Sumter and Moultrie .....	(Harper & Bros.) 1 00
Daiton (Dr. J. C.), Human Physiology .....	(Henry C. Lea) 1 00
Forster (J.), Life of Jonathan Swift, Vol. I .....	(Harper & Bros.) 1 00
Gordon (Maj. Gen. G. H.), Second Massachusetts and "Stonewall" Jackson .....	(A. Williams & Co.) 2 00
Johnson (Helen K.), Roddy's Reality .....	(G. P. Putnam's Sons) 1 75
Lundy (J. P.), Monumental Christianity .....	(J. W. Bouton) 1 00
May (Sophie), Ashbury Twins .....	(Lee & Shepard) 1 75
Mettenheimer (H. J.), Safety Hook-keeping .....	(Robert Clarke & Co.) 1 00
Macmillan (Rev. H.), Sabbath of the Fields .....	(Macmillan & Co.) 2 00
Newman (J. P.), Babylon and Nineveh. Illustrated .....	(Harper & Bros.) 1 75
Optic (O.), In Doors and Out .....	(Lee & Shepard) 1 75
Parker (Rev. J.), Job's Comforters; or, Scientific Sympathy, swd. ....	(A. D. F. Randolph & Co.) 25
Portfolio for December, swd. ....	(J. W. Bouton) 1 00
Reading Club and Handy Speaker .....	(Lee & Shepard) 50
Reference Catalogue of Current Literature .....	(F. Leopoldt) 2 50
Skeat (Rev. W. W.), Shakespeare's Plutarch .....	(Macmillan & Co.) 30
Stieler (A.), Hand-Atlas. Part 29, swd. ....	(L. W. Schmidt) 30
Stowe (Harriet B.), Betty's Bright Idea. Illustrated, swd. ....	(J. B. Ford & Co.) 30
Strong (Hon. W.), Relations of Civil Law to Church Policy .....	(Dodd & Mead) 2 00
Shuman (A.), The Loves of a Lawyer .....	(W. B. Keen, Cooke & Co.) 2 00
Smith (G. B.), Poets and Novelists .....	(D. Appleton & Co.) 2 00
Stuart-Glenzie (Prof. J. S.), Pilgrim Memories .....	(D. Appleton & Co.) 2 00
Talboys (W. P.), West India Pickles .....	(G. W. Carleton & Co.) 2 00
Travelers' Grab-Bag: Stories .....	(Authors' Publishing Co.) 0 80
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